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THE PENNSYLVANIA BEEKEEPER



VOL. 18 NO. 1

MARCH, 1943

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Official Organ of the Pennsylvania State Beekeepers' Association, Published Quarterly. Membership and Subscription Price inclusive \$1.00

PUBLISHED BY DIRECTION OF THE ASSOCIATION

PUBLISHING COMMITTEE

E. J. Anderson, Editor, State College, Pa. | Walter Doud, Mansfield, Pa.
Frederick Hahman, Altoona, Pa. | Adv. Mgr., Harry W. Beaver, Troy, Pa.

OFFICERS OF THE ASSOCIATION

PRESIDENT E. B. Everitt, Allentown, Pa.
VICE-PRESIDENT Roy Herr, Lancaster, Pa.
SECRETARY-TREASURER H. M. Snavely, Carlisle, Pa.

REPORT OF THE 40th ANNUAL MEETING

of the

PENNSYLVANIA STATE BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION

Convened at Harrisburg, Pa., Tuesday, January 12th, 1943

The meeting was called to order by the President, Mr. E. B. Everitt.

The Invocation was offered by Rev. H. M. Snavely.

Address of Welcome—Hon. John H. Light, Secretary of Agriculture

I doubt if there has ever been a time in which things have been as uncertain as they are now. I think that is generally true. In preparing material for a discussion, one finds much more difficulty than ever before because conditions are changing so rapidly. There is no way of knowing what the trend of things may be during a war. It is always difficult to forecast any particular trend and I don't want to make an attempt to do that this morning. I want to give you a review of the last few years as a basis perhaps for future work. We could have begun our three year inspection in the eastern part of the State and proceeded westward, but the western section was not as well taken care of hence the work was begun in that section. The counties of Delaware, and Montgomery were not cleaned up this last year because of the shortage of men, but Mr. Kirk can tell you very definitely how great the need is in this area. We don't want to think of any section as being more important than any other but when we knew we couldn't cover the entire state we agreed to leave this particular section go until next year.

During the past three years, the Department inspected 154,000 colonies and 23,000 apiaries. In the three years previous to 1939 the Department inspected 105,000 colonies and little better than 10,000 apiaries. I shall leave the State service on Tuesday and cannot say anything about the future of this work. There will be some difficulties, but not because of the Administration. There may be some difficulties in getting men but you can see from this map that the work is in such a status that it can go forward without difficulty. If the man-power was available we could divide the State into two sections, that is a matter for you and the Department to determine. It would seem to me that the next step might well be to have an inspection every second year. I do hope very much that the time will come when you have an annual inspection. If I might make a suggestion, it is this—I would not let up on this work now. You have things well in hand and can accomplish your ends better than by having a special Act of Assembly. If the County Associations will continue to assist the administration the time will come when the disease will be cleaned up.

I have been personally interested and Mr. Kirk and the inspectors have

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done a good job. Once in a while, we hire men who do not come up to all expectations but on the whole we had a good group. Perhaps we could have begun a more detailed inspection of the one section of the state but because of reorganization in 1939 we could not do all the things we wanted to do. The beekeepers of Pennsylvania produce five or six million pounds of honey—three-quarters of a million dollars a year. I believe that the beekeepers are in just a little better situation than they would be if this inspection work had not been done.

I want to say to you even though it would not be necessary, that I am sincerely appreciative of the cooperation that your group gave in the matters of administration. When we came into the Department four years ago we came in under very difficult circumstances with a shortage of \$150,000 in the budget for the year then closing. It was difficult under these conditions to organize a program. We had to dismiss men and cut salaries. Fortunately, conditions changed and I have been able to paint a better picture of what has been done in the last three years.

During the last four years ending May, 1942 the appropriation to the Department of Agriculture for Departmental affairs was \$6,998,000. Our expenses on the plan which we are using was \$6,754,398. We are turning back into the general fund \$244,000 of appropriated money. Half was turned back into the fund at the end of the first two years. For the three years ending May, 1942, we operated with better than a million dollars less than the previous administration. In spite of the reduction, we inspected 154,000 colonies against 105,000 and 23,000 apiaries instead of 10,000 in the previous years. I want to make this statement so that you can see that our administration was one of business.

When I came into the Department I had only one objective and that was to do a good job. There was a job to be done. The beekeepers had to be taken care of and that was the service that the people of Pennsylvania wanted and I appreciate the cooperation from this group and any group that had anything to do with the Department. I hope that the same feeling may continue so that all agricultural groups in the State of Pennsylvania will be able to get the best service. It is not a Department to popularize food but it is to carry out the laws that are laid down by act of Assembly. The Department cannot do anything except those things prescribed by law. I again thank you and appeal to you to carry on and give the same support to my success so that every part of the Department will be helped.

Response by Elmer F. Reustle:

It does give me a lot of pleasure to say a few words at this time since I have been on the Legislative Committee of this Association for quite a few years and learned to know Mr. Light and previous secretaries of this Department. Before Mr. Light came to Harrisburg, we got nowhere, and I take my hat off to him because of his accomplishments. It was a fact that the Department was not in a position to do much the first year, but the second year the Association was accepted with open hands. The proof of this is the close cooperation we have enjoyed during the past few years. Pres. Light's remarks in reference to the percentage of disease shows that he did a good job. He had to have support and he did get that from the State Association. If our efficient three year program is continued with the support of this Association and the cooperative feeling goes on, I am quite sure that the percentage of disease can be cut down from 9% to 2%. I would like to make a motion that we give John Light a rising vote of thanks for all he has done for beekeeping in the last four years.

Italian Queens—Northern Bred for Business

Booking orders for June Del. Safe arrival. 46 years breeding experience.

Untested \$1.00—3 for \$2.75 . . . Sel. \$1.25. Filled in rotation.

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A WORD FROM MILES HORST

This is the first talk, I have made to groups meeting here at the time of the Farm Show. I will tell you frankly that General Martin has been kind enough and has enough confidence in my work to ask me to be a member of his cabinet. I am not Secretary of Agriculture but am looking forward to serving in that capacity. I can not speak in an official capacity at this time but would like to say that I have served the farm interests of the State in one way or another for many years. I was with the Pennsylvania Farmer for twenty years or more and became well acquainted with the need of agriculture during that time.

I hope that I can maintain a spirit of helpfulness whenever the opportunity offers. I hope that you beekeepers will come in to see me. The door will be open, use it, come in and we will talk over your problems.

We are now in a war and unexpected things are happening. I do not know what the next four years hold in store for us but I do believe that we should all pull together and make the best of what this difficult situation offers. I hope that you will feel free to ask my help and I am going to assure you that it will be offered to the fullest extent possible.

At the close of Mr. Horst's brief talk, Mr. Reustle made the following motion, seconded by Mr. Singer: I move that this Association offer its help to Mr. Horst and work with him during the next four years. It passed.

Mr. Kirk emphasized the fact that it is important that members of the

group get in to see Mr. Horst about furthering the program.

Election of officers was then held. The motion was made and carried that all present officers of the Association be retained for the coming year.

Upon the completion of Mr. Snavely's report a motion was moved that the report be accepted subject to the auditor's approval.

President Everitt then gave his report.

The following Committees were appointed by the President:

Auditing: W. G. Singer, Frederick Hahman, Paul Cummings.

Legislative: Leonard Good, Robert Johnson, Harry Beaver, Harry Pye, Mr. Schlegel of the Trexler Farms, Ed. Sachs, John Hess, Forest Brehm, W. G. Singer and John Fleck.

Research: John Fleck, Elmer Reustle, Edwin J. Anderson and D. L. Burkholder.

Resolutions: Thomas Burkey, Elmer Reustle and Quay Minnich.

Farm Show: H. M. Snavely, Roy Herr, Floyd Sandt.

Summer meeting: E. B. Everitt, Roy Herr, H. M. Snavely.

o

THE PENNSYLVANIA AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION

by

Dr. Fred F. Lininger, Director of the Agricultural Experimental Station, Pennsylvania State College.

The work of the Agricultural Experiment Station at the present time may be characterized by three statements:

1. Agricultural research is moving out

WANTED MAN between 20-40 years for our bee supply department. Must understand beekeeping and beekeeping supplies. Exempt from draft. A good position with future to the right man. Give FULL particulars in FIRST letter. State salary expected.

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closer to the problems of Pennsylvania farmers through its established laboratories and research staff contacts.

2. Emphasis is placed on practical problems and the "sugaring off" of results to meet war conditions.

3. New work is being undertaken to meet war time problems of Pennsylvania agriculture.

Through the Agricultural Experiment Station, The Pennsylvania State College has developed a program of research extending back over a period of many years. This program includes problems in poultry, agronomy, dairy husbandry, horticulture, nutrition and many others. Some outstanding results have been obtained by our workers. Among these are the development of such varieties of vegetables as Penn Heart tomatoes and Ballhead cabbage. You undoubtedly remember Penn State Jessie with the trap door to her stomach. She permitted the study of vitamins in the digestive system of cows. Other accomplishments could be mentioned but they are too numerous to be cited now.

The need for research in apiculture was recognized many years back but the limited budget upon which the department had to operate did not permit the establishment of this line of work until last fall. I am, therefore, pleased to be able to attend your meeting today and report a program of research in beekeeping. We have selected a man thoroughly acquainted with the beekeepers problems in Pennsylvania to organize and develop this new phase of research. You are well acquainted with Mr. Anderson who has been transferred from extension to research. We have confidence in his ability to do a good job.

Research in beekeeping should benefit the beekeeper, farm interests in general, and the present war efforts. It should help with the war efforts because of the importance of bees to most types of agriculture. Bees are our most efficient pollinators of clover, buckwheat, some vegetables, and fruits. This work has a direct bearing on the war efforts, since all types of food are needed in greater quantities and seed production is a means to this end.

There are a number of projects at the College which we are bringing to completion as quickly as possible so that the results may be used in the war efforts and others having a direct bearing may be started. I will not go into detail regarding the program of research in general or in beekeeping. I will let Mr. Anderson tell you more about the work he has outlined since I see that he has a place on your program for such a discussion.

In closing, I wish to say again that I am glad to be able to report the beginning of this work and I wish to ask your cooperation and suggestions in developing this program of research in beekeeping.

PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS

By E. B. EVERITT

Members of the Pennsylvania Beekeeper's Association, and friends:

I address you at the end of a year remarkable in many ways, but not distinguished by too many pleasant associations for beekeepers.

In our own state we have endured weather unpropitious for honey production. Both quantity and quality of

honey have suffered. It is quite likely that disease has spread more generally than for many years; though the full evidence of this will not appear until next Spring.

Travel has become increasingly difficult; unless we are alert our organization will suffer from this as well as the loss of stimulation that the Farm Show afforded other years.

Regulation of our markets, and more recently of the sources and amounts of supplies available has changed so rapidly and so drastically that it was almost impossible to keep our production and marketing upon a business-like basis.

In one phase only of our work have we reason for unqualified rejoicing; that is in the establishment of a Research Department in bee culture at the Pennsylvania State College. Mr. Anderson has been appointed Assistant Professor of Apiculture in the Department of Zoology and Entomology. This

is highly gratifying for it fulfills the desire of the Association for constructive study in keeping with the importance of our industry in this state. It is the opinion of your President that the group might very well express its appreciation to the Dean of the School of Agriculture and the President of the College, and proffer its assistance, especially in suggesting important and useful lines of study. Certainly adaptation by breeding to Pennsylvania's conditions should be considered; work should be done towards developing nectar-secreting plants that will be more dependable than they now are; and improved marketing methods should be developed.

Government Controls

Three important steps by the national government have modified our market this past year. The first one was the emergency rationing order of last March, which limited to the previous

Pettit's Package Bees with Queens

NEED NO INTRODUCTION TO PENNSYLVANIA
BEEKEEPERS and FRUIT GROWERS

We have been serving you for many years. For 1943 we are as well prepared as ever.

Best young queens
No drones
New Cages

Gentle Italians
Hard workers
Safe arrival

OUR BEST FRIENDS ARE SATISFIED CUSTOMERS

Write for our fair prices to

MORLEY PETTIT

TIFTON, GA.

P. S. Let me put a flea in your ear. Heavy orders with reserved dates are being booked already, so don't delay if you want bees and prompt service in spring 1943.

Lewis
BEEWARE

FLOYD H. SANDT

—Dealer In—

LEWIS QUALITY BEE SUPPLIES AND
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R. D. 2 24 Hour Service EASTON, PA.

year's form the use of honey in manufacturing. Then the next one came with the blanket price ceiling which put a maximum price on honey sales no higher than those in effect for each seller in March. This disrupted the orderly marketing of honey so greatly that late in November the third step came with the universal price ceiling for Grade 1 liquid honey at 12c a pound to the producer who sold in bulk, and permits the adjustment upwards in proportion to the wholesale price to all subsequent handlers of the product. Wax started under the general price ceiling; it also is now under a specific ceiling of 41½c per pound to the producer. It is to be noted that the original price ceiling on honey was predicated upon the contention that they were processed agricultural products, a classification rather difficult to justify.

These regulations have had three purposes to preserve approximately normal markets for the industry, instead of the enormous field of substitute use that was opening up; to ward off any tendency to over-expansion in the production of honey; and to maintain the stability of the whole price structure in all aspects of our economic life.

It is remarkable that last January this Association went on record as

favoring these ends, and action then pointed the same direction that the Government saw fit to go later, though some of us nearly lost our breath when we saw how far and fast it was going. What comment your president has heard seems to indicate moderately warm approval of the ceiling, though it does seem that the higher costs of labor in the East should have been recognized by at least a small differential. The restriction of supplies to thirty percent of normal increase is rather severe, though probably salutary, if the war ends this coming Fall or Winter.

Organizations

The impact of the war upon the State and County Associations has been severe. The picnic at Valley Forge was restricted by the inconvenience of travel and local associations will continue to have more and more difficulty with their meetings; I believe, though, that most strenuous efforts must be made to continue their work, particularly in connection with the Agricultural Extension services, for ground lost now may not be regained for many years after the war ends. These activities grow up slowly and don't revive easily if they are neglected.

The American Honey Producer's League, of which this Association is a member, was impotent at the be-

ginning of the present emergency. The only positive action in the industry came from an unofficial group that met in Chicago last February, and from the State Associations, such as Michigan, Ohio, California and Pennsylvania, which sent letters and petitions to Washington. Several of us attended a Michigan-Ohio meeting at Medina last July, and signed a request to the OPA to remove the price ceiling from retail honey until such time as a parity price was arrived at. Nothing immediately came of that, for the present price was then being prepared. It is to be noted that the present price fixing scheme is essentially the cost-plus system used in the previous World War. It was abused widely and flagrantly then to the disadvantage of the producers of agricultural products, the dealers and manufacturers making most of the profits, and it is to be hoped that the same conditions won't produce the same results again. Note that honey is one of the few products being handled with such arrangements now.

The American Honey Producer's League is holding a meeting in Chicago on January 26th at the Hotel Morrison to determine war and post war policies. I strongly urge this Association to be represented there. All matters of national policy should come through a national organization, or there will be inconsistency. We should urge some uniformity in marketing practices, and make an effort to bring about reason-

able stable prices in the difficult days that will follow the end of the war.

Your president wishes to express the great pleasure he has taken in his work this year. The cooperation of County Associations and of individuals was most heartening, especially when decisions had to be made in the matter of attitude toward price-fixing and rationing. Without the letters you wrote I would have been loathe to take the responsibility that I did. I regret my ability to accept more invitations to visit the local groups, but my work and the difficulty of obtaining gasoline were definite limitations. I am constrained to suggest that since conditions will not improve this summer, the Association would do well to elect a president more centrally located in the state.

—o—

A REPORT OF APIARY INSPECTION IN PENNSYLVANIA THE PAST THREE YEARS

By H. B. KIRK

At the beginning of the 1940 inspection season, it was planned to completely cover the state with a thorough inspection of all apiaries every three years. With the exception of two counties, this plan was completed in the allotted time.

Approximately 24,000 apiaries consisting of 155,000 colonies of bees were inspected. In this same period, 10,454 colonies of bees either in illegal hives or infected with disease were burned



Honey's Wartime Uniforms

Economy jars as made by the Duraglas technique—Brilliant, sparkling glass.

Engineered for strength, easy filling, labeling, handling and consumer convenience.

A VICTORY package and a SALES package!

Owens-Illinois Glass Co.
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SCHMIDT'S ECONOMY FOUNDATION

If interested in exceptional quality at a fair price, let us furnish your foundation or make up your wax, into Schmidt's Economy Foundation. Send for prices.

Oscar H. Schmidt & Sons

BAY CITY, MICH.

Rt. 4

ELEVEN YEAR RECORD OF APIARY INSPECTIONS
H. B. KIRK, Inspector

YEAR	1932	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942
Weeks of Inspection	224	121	138	65	169	133	113	115	202	188	155½
No. of Inspectors	15	7	10	7	11	10	11	11	14	13	9
No. of Apiaries	8486	3964	5364	3116	6510	4836	4966	4451	8923	8077	6778
No. of Hives in Average Apiary	6.5	7.5	6.7	7.1	6.0	7.0	7.0	8.0	6.0	7.0	7.0
No. of Colonies Inspected	53548	29155	36185	23727	38722	34528	36323	35055	52837	54274	46999
Disease Percentage	9.5	7.0	7.8	6.6	9.7	9.0	7.0	9.0	8.0	6.7	8.0
Percentage in Unlawful Hives	16.0	13.0	9.5	8.7	6.4	7.6	5.0	5.1	6.4	7.0	3.6
Colonies Burned	4130	1051	2275	426	2356	1599	1428	2277	3915	3500	3039
Prosecutions	7	6	9	1	0	0	0	2	4	1	0
Paid Fine or Served Time	0	2	5	1	0	0	0	2	3	1	0
Applications for Lic. for Selling Queens	8	8	8	14	10	10	11	11	14	0	9
Licensed Queen Apiaries	7	6	8	14	9	10	11	10	14	12	8
No. of Days in Field	1344	726	828	510	1014	799	786	689	1213	1131	933½
No. of Miles Travelled						54923	50374	39886	78175	77217	63596
Ave. Colonies Examined per Day per Insp'tor	40	40	43	46	38	43	46	53	44	48	50
Examined per Day Average Colonies	650	280	430	322	418	430	506	582	616	624	450

with the help of the inspectors. Many other colonies were disposed of by the beekeepers themselves after having been notified to make the proper corrections. The illegal hive condition has been reduced from an average of 9% from the five year period preceding 1938 to 5.8% the past five years. The disease percentage has hovered around 8% the past ten years. Ten years ago there was considerable opposition among many of the smaller beekeepers to our inspection work, especially when corrections were ordered or when burning was recommended.

In the years 1932-33-34, twenty-four prosecutions were ordered and fines paid, whereas in the eight year period from 1935 to 1942 only eight prosecutions were ordered. These figures will indicate the degree of cooperation between the inspectors and the beekeepers at the present time.

According to our records, the number of beekeepers has been somewhat reduced but the increase in number of colonies and the improvement in equipment by the commercial beekeepers has been quite noticeable. The increase in the production of honey in Pennsylvania has been evident the past several years.

Due to the large number of beekeepers and the proximity of one apiary with another throughout the state, the control of disease is made more difficult. Then, too, the inspectors which are employed only a few months each year are not likely to work over

a long period of time. This is especially true at the present time when jobs are plentiful and most persons employed.

It must be remembered that sweets are an important article of diet and every beekeeper should be encouraged to produce more honey. We must also remember that American Foulbrood must be kept under control in order to produce the maximum crop. Every effort should be made to keep the inspection work up to a high standard and check the spread of all bee diseases as soon as they are discovered.

Nothing will discourage a beekeeper as much and reduce the production of honey more than the lack of protection to the beekeeper against disease.

It is extremely important that all beekeepers who are acquainted with the several bee diseases, should be their own inspectors. They should treat or destroy their own colonies when necessary and let the State inspectors devote their efforts to instructing and cleaning up disease for those beekeepers who are not yet acquainted with disease and its treatment.

Careful inspection is most necessary in apiaries or communities where disease has been found previously.

Inspections should be made at regular intervals even though this disease has never been present in your apiary.

Too much dependence must not be placed on queens from so-called resistant stock.

Care must always be taken when

ULTRA VIOLET RAY TREATED QUEENS

U. S. Patent No. 1868042

They are more gentler and from 20 to 45% more prolific than untreated queens. Colonies headed by a treated queen will produce one or more supers of honey.

1 to 24 queens, untested \$.90 ea.
25 to 100 queens, untested85 ea.
101 to 500 queens, untested80 ea.
TESTED QUEENS, any quantity 2.00 ea.

Delivery April, May, June prices 10c less.

THE FRED W. MUTH CO., 229 Walnut St., Cincinnati, O.

new colonies or used bee equipment are added to your own.

Burn and do not treat colonies affected with American Foulbrood.

Hive bodies, tops and bottoms from diseased colonies can be sterilized. Burn the frames and brood. Do not attempt to salvage frames.

Head your colonies with resistant stock that is sufficiently gentle to handle easily.

Be sure you know the difference between American and European Foulbrood and Sac Brood. It is well to send samples of infected comb to the Bureau of Plant Industry at Harrisburg to check on your determination from time to time.

In conclusion I would recommend that all colonies be maintained in hives with the proper bee spaces and with frames with straight combs that are easily removed. Then make periodical inspections and note any irregularity of the brood, discolored or sunken or punctured cappings or any discolored larvae. Head your colonies with disease resistant stock which is not too snappy and difficult to handle. Locate your apiary and each colony where the bees are a pleasure to work with and easy to inspect. Remember that the State inspectors are to assist the beekeepers to control disease and are not expected to do his work for him.

Honey production can be increased in Pennsylvania. Help this state do its part toward the war effort.

Report of the Resolutions Committee:

We members of the Pennsylvania Beekeepers' Association meeting in Annual Session January 12th and 13th, 1943 do hereby resolve:

1. That the Secretary of this Association be instructed to convey to the Dean of the School of Agriculture, State College, our approval and appreciation of the School's action in establishing an Experimental Station and Laboratory of Apiculture and that we in appreciation wish to present to the new department a refractometer to be used in the study of honey and sugar solutions in the work of the Department;
2. That the Secretary convey our expression of gratitude to Mr. R. H. Bell and Mr. H. B. Kirk for their excellent work in disease control and emphatically request the continuance of the same.
3. That we wish to express to the Secretary of Agriculture, Mr. Light, our appreciation of his help and sympathetic understanding of our problems, and of the wholehearted cooperation he has accorded our committee in an attempt to bring A. F. B. under control within the borders of the State.
4. That we wish to thank the newly appointed Secretary of Agriculture, Mr. Horst, for his expression of interest in our problems and for his offer to meet with our committee during his administration.

5. That this group instruct the Secretary to pay to the Pennsylvania Council of Farm Organizations the annual membership fee of \$5.00.

6. That this Association convey to the State Farm Show, our appreciation for their efforts in providing a meeting room for our organization.

7. That this Association continue its efforts to get further contributions for equipment and funds to aid our newly established research department at State College.

The Committee:

Berkey
Reustle
Minnich

Report of the Committee on Research:

This Committee plans to keep in touch with action of Legislature on appropriation for State College with particular emphasis to item for research work and recommend that members of this Association endeavor to inform their respective Legislators of the importance of this work and request them to favor it;

This Committee recommends that we express our appreciation of the forward step in establishing a Research Department in Beekeeping by State College.

The Committee:

J. S. Fleck
Elmer Reustle
Prof. E. J. Anderson

The Report of this Annual Meeting will be continued in the next issue.

REVIEW OF ANNUAL MEETING IN HARRISBURG

By H. M. Snavely, Sec.-Treas.

The Annual State Beekeepers' meeting was held in the Chestnut Street Auditorium, Harrisburg, January 12 and 13. The change of meeting places was due to the fact that the Federal Government is occupying the Farm Show Buildings, and so there was no Farm Product Show this year. The attendance was the lowest for a number of years. The interest, however, was very good. Dr. E. J. Dyce, Extension Apiarist of New York State, was the out-of-state guest speaker. This was his first appearance before the Pennsylvania beekeepers. Dr. Dyce was not a stranger long. He presented some very helpful points and his talks were followed by a good response in open discussion.

Dr. Fred Lininger, Director of Experimental Station at State College, appeared on the program. We were especially fortunate to have Dr. Lininger with us because of the new department of Research in Beekeeping. The Pennsylvania beekeepers will welcome this department. They have worked for many years to bring this about. Mr. E. J. Anderson, who is known throughout the state as Extension Specialist, is now working in this new department, while we will miss his splendid work in the field of extension, we congratulate him, and wish him every success. We are glad he is still with

1943 Prices On Package Bees For April & May.

	1-24 Pkg.	25-100 Pkg.	over 100
2 lb. Pkg. Bees & Queen	\$2.95	\$2.80	\$2.65
3 lb. Pkg. Bees & Queen	3.80	3.65	3.50
4 lb. Pkg. Bees & Queen	4.65	4.50	4.35

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Hollopeter's Strain of Hustling Italians

READY MAY 20th

Untested queens, 80c each; tested queens, \$1.50

Breeding queen, \$6.00

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L. B. 180

ROCKTON, PA.

us in Pennsylvania. His new connection will also be of state-wide value just the same as his previous work.

Some of the speakers were not able to be present due to work of various kinds, and also due to transportation restrictions. Mr. W. Irvin Galt, County Agent of Cumberland County, showed some interesting pictures of 4-H Club work in Cumberland County. The banquet was both educational and entertaining and was enjoyed, even though the crowd was small.

Mr. H. B. Kirk, Senior Entomologist of the Dept. of Agriculture, in charge of inspection work, gave a report of the work done during the year. Even though the work was hampered because of the present emergency, the Dept. made favorable progress.

Miles Horst, who is now Secretary of Agriculture, was invited to our meeting. He assured us that he is anxious to cooperate with our industry, and invited our committee to come in to see him and talk over our problems.

Various committees were appointed, and reports were received. The election of officers resulted in the same as last year. Mr. Everitt continues as President; Mr. Herr, Vice President; and the writer Sec.-Treas. The Association decided to continue its support of the American Honey Institute with the same amount as last year, \$25.00. Delegates were elected to attend the conference of beekeepers in Chicago January 26 and 27. Mr. Anderson and Mr. Snively were elected. A report of the conference will appear at another place in this issue.

These are strenuous times for all of

us. Every industry must take a share of this difficulty, however, let us face it with courage and hope that there are better days ahead. We earnestly appeal to all members to maintain their membership and pay dues during 1943. If any of you have not paid during 1942 see your County Association Secretary and pay through your own county. If there is no organization in your county, then send your dollar direct to H. M. Snively, Sec.-Treas., 221 Walnut Street, Carlisle, Pa. If you live in a county which does not have a county organization the annual dues are \$1.00, this includes the four issues of the Pennsylvania Beekeeper.

— o —

**Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
Department of Agriculture**

Bureau of Plant Industry
State Capitol Harrisburg, Pa.

**Apiary Inspection Rules and Inspection
Procedure in effect May 1, 1943**

In accordance with an act of General Assembly approved April 6, 1921, P. L. 95 (Apiary Inspection Law), the Secretary of Agriculture hereby adopts the following rules and plan of procedure for Apiary Inspection Work within the Commonwealth.

Regulations

(1) The apiary advisers selected by the Secretary of Agriculture shall have the right of entry to any place where bees or bee equipment is kept. (See Section 10 of the Bee Law)

(2) Queen Bees, package bees and

PACKAGE BEES AND QUEENS

Hustling Italian Stock

PROMPT AND RELIABLE SERVICE

Write for Prices

GRENSHAW COUNTY APIARIES

Rutledge, Ala.

colonies of bees moved into the State must be accompanied by a certificate of inspection from the state of origin.

(3) Used bee appliances, combs, hives, extractors, honey containers or any used bee equipment shall not be moved into the state unless properly inspected and accompanied by a certificate from the state of origin.

(4) Notice should be given to the Department of Agriculture of movements into the state of any appliances not accompanied by a certificate of inspection.

(5) Initial inspection shall consist of a complete survey of the area designated by the Secretary.

Inspection Procedure

A county shall be the smallest area covered by an initial inspection, unless for special reasons a smaller area can be justified.

In covering an area on initial inspection the inspector shall locate and inspect all apiaries regardless of size

in that area. Every colony with movable frames will be examined by removing as many frames of brood as is necessary to make a thorough inspection.

If possible, the inspector shall make known his presence before making an inspection, but if nobody can be found on the premises the inspection will be made and a letter sent to the owner or person in charge stating the conditions found.

The official notice and instructions for treating disease will be given or mailed to each beekeeper in whose apiary disease is found.

If disease is found in any colonies on the initial inspection, the beekeeper shall be asked to treat or burn it before the inspector leaves the premises. This is to be done even though the discovered infection is confined to only a few cells. If the beekeeper insists on burning or treating the colonies himself, the disease must be successfully treated



Save Your Beeswax Help Your Country

Beeswax is urgently needed, more than ever before in the entire history of beekeeping. Much is now used in important industry in new ways. Imports are low. Prices are high. A half pound additional a year per colony increases your income considerably.

MOST IMPORTANT! The Army, Navy, and Air Force need millions of pounds of beeswax for coating ammunition, airplanes, shoes, and other articles; for pharmaceuticals and medicine; and in chemical warfare. We must do the job of producing it. It's an important war effort. Do your part.

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HAMILTON, ILLINOIS

Send for our leaflet, "How to Increase and Save Beeswax."
We buy beeswax at all times for the highest market prices.

or the colonies burned in the fourteen day period. (See Section 5 of the Bee Law)

Colonies of bees determined by the inspector as not amenable to treatment must always be burned immediately after issuing notice. (See Section 5 and 6 of the Bee Law)

Colonies of bees found infected with disease after August 1st are considered not amenable to treatment even though a few cells only are found infected. Permission shall not be given to carry diseased colonies of bees over the winter.

If illegal hives are found some disposition must be made of them before the inspector leaves the premises. The inspector is authorized to assist the beekeeper in making the necessary corrections. If they are free of disease the bees can be united to other colonies, otherwise they must be destroyed.

The inspector shall wash his hands and sterilize his hive tool after inspecting bees infected with American foulbrood.

A "follow-up" (check-up) inspection will be made of all apiaries where American foulbrood was found in the counties or smaller districts covered by initial inspection. This inspection will be made soon after the expiration of the fourteen days allowed for treating or burning diseased colonies.

In so far as possible a second inspection will be made (the year following the initial inspection) of all

apiaries where American foulbrood was found during the initial inspection. This inspection is to be made as early as possible in the spring following the year of initial inspection.

The above rules and regulations, effective May 1, 1943, shall be in force until further notice.

Done at the State Capitol, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania this 26th day of February, 1943.

Witness my hand and the seal of the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture.

APPROVED—MILES HORST
Secretary of Agriculture

A SUGGESTION FOR THE RE-SEARCH DEPARTMENT

At the winter meeting at Harrisburg, the State Association passed a motion that any county association or individual that wished may contribute, through the secretary of the State Association, to a fund to be used for the purchase of scientific equipment. The equipment to be used in the new beekeeping laboratory. The following individuals and associations have contributed to date:

Philadelphia Assn. sent in by

Elmer Reustle in 1941,\$5.00
At the Harrisburg meeting in January 1943:

Elmer Reustle 5.00
Robert Johnson 5.00
Philip Smith 1.00
Thomas Berkey 1.00
Since the meeting in Harrisburg
from Lehigh Valley Assn., sent
in by Mrs. Howard Dennis 5.00

Making a total of\$22.00

SCALES WANTED

Two or three platform scales are needed for research work with bees at the College. The platform should be at least 16 by 20 inches or larger. The type of scales generally used on the farm is the type needed. If you know of any for sale, new or used, get in touch with Edwin J. Anderson, State College, Pa., state price and owners name.

INSPECTORS WANTED

Our Government recognizes the vital part the beekeeping industry has in the present National crisis. It has been cooperating with us and is asking that every effort be made to produce more honey and beeswax.

We cannot accomplish this without keeping healthy colonies of bees and clean apiaries. To this end our State inspection program, under the direction of the Secretary of Agriculture, has been pressed.

This, then, is an appeal for more inspectors who are qualified and willing to aid this cause. If you are an experienced beekeeper and have the other necessary qualifications, please inquire immediately.

Write to Hon. Miles Horst, Secretary of Agriculture, Harrisburg, Pa. or Prof. E. B. Everitt, President Penna. State Beekeepers Assoc., 2445 Allen St., Allentown, Pa.

KNIGHT'S PACKAGE BEES and QUEENS UNABLE TO SUPPLY UNTIL MAY 20th BOOKED FULL UNTIL THEN

Prices leather colored Italian bees and queens.

	Queens	2 Lb.	3 Lb.	4 Lb.	5 lb. inc. queens
1 to 24	75c	\$2.80	\$3.65	\$4.45	\$5.20
25 to 99	70c	2.65	3.45	4.20	4.90
100	65c	2.50	3.25	3.95	4.60

May be able to supply a few queens and packages
May 15th.

Jasper Knight, Hayneville, Alabama

Prompt Mail Service
FROM WYOMING COUNTY
SEND US YOUR ORDERS FOR BOTH
LEWIS and ROOT SUPPLIES
Gay Murray Company
TUNKHANNOCK
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REPORT OF THE CHICAGO CONFERENCES

The group gathered at the Morrison Hotel, Chicago, represented producers, bottlers, cooperatives, manufacturers, professional men and apiary inspectors. The general feeling of those present seemed to be that the beekeepers should be organized in an active association and have their own representative at Washington to consult with the war boards on matters of production, ceilings and rationing. The large bottlers and the manufacturers have an organization selected to present their problems to the war boards. The larger concentration of finances in their hands makes it possible for members of this group to get to Washington whenever they consider it necessary. Their representatives have been in contact with officials at Washington and at least some of the members of the bottlers and manufacturers organization or National Honey Association appeared to have the interests of the beekeepers in mind when making suggestions for the future of this industry.

The new organizations were formed by the group gathered at Chicago. The first was a beekeepers organization called the National Federation of State Beekeepers Associations. It is expected that the Federation will eventually unite with and take the place of the American Honey Producers League. This Association is intended to represent the beekeepers or producers on matters that require united action.

Every state beekeepers association in the country will have the privilege of affiliating with the Federation by paying \$.05 for each of its active members. The respective state associations will

then have a voice in the affairs of the Federation. One elected delegate from each state association will constitute a Board of Managers. The Board of Managers will elect the officers of the Federation and two representatives from their respective districts. The two representatives in turn make up an executive committee which will carry on the business of the organization between meetings. The officers of the National Organization are also members of the executive committee. The Federation will meet once a year at places selected at previous meetings.

The war council was the second organization formed. It is to be composed of nine representatives from three organizations. Two members were selected by the supply manufacturers and two by the honey bottlers. The remaining five are to be chosen by the beekeepers associations, one from each of the same districts from which Executive Federation members are selected. Five temporary members were selected at the convention, they will act until the state associations can select members by ballot.

The whole complicated set up of the two organizations might be described briefly by saying that, a National federation of state beekeeper associations was organized with a board of managers and an executive committee. The board of managers is composed of an indefinite number of representatives, one from each affiliated state association. The executive committee of the Federation is to be composed of two from each district, one of these two executive committee members is to be designated a member of the war council, the other an alternate. The war council has four additional members,

two selected by the bottlers and two by the supply manufacturers. The Federation is a national beekeepers association, while the council is an emergency organization to represent the beekeepers and allied industries during the war. It may be continued under a different name after the war is over.

The country is divided into the following districts:

North eastern states
Southern states
North central states
Mountain states
Pacific states

Our group or the north eastern states include the New England States, New York, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, and West Virginia.

The officers of the Federation have not been selected, those of the war council as temporary officers are: chairman, E. G. Brown of the Inter-mountain Cooperative, Sioux City, Iowa, and E. B. Everitt, Allentown, Sec.-treas. Mr. L. White from Oregon was selected by the council to represent the different groups at Washington. Mr. White is both a producer and a packer.

Many items came up for discussion but most of them had to do with the beekeeper and his relation to the war efforts. A simplification of the last regulations or MPR 275 was requested. It was suggested that a ceiling of \$2.65 a dozen, jobbing price, be placed on one pound jars. This price to be used by those who for some reason do not now have a ceiling price. Another resolution requested the OPA to use \$.35 a pound, retail, as a ceiling providing a dollar and cent ceiling were to be set, other prices to be in proportion.

Another resolution requested the Sec-

retary of Agriculture at Washington to set a goal of 275,000,000 pounds of honey for 1943 and to guarantee a floor of ten and eight tenths cents a pound for this honey. The OPA representative did not offer much encouragement for a floor price, he did state, however, that they were interested in maintaining a high rate of production and the present channels of distribution with a reasonable profit for all. The O. P. A. desired as little disorganization to the industry as possible. The representative also requested the group to send a beekeeper to consult with them on matters of prices, Mr. White was the man selected.

Those representing Pennsylvania at the conference were: H. M. Snively, Edwin J. Anderson and E. B. Everitt.

THE BEEKEEPING WAR COUNCIL

The Beekeeping War Council is a small organization which will try to correlate the three bee industry groups—the National Honey Association (packers, etc.), the Bee Industries Association (manufacturers), and the new Federation of State Beekeepers' Associations being set up by the producers.

Although the Council is now primarily concerned with the problems arising from the war, it is intended to be a permanent organ whose name will probably be changed to the American Beekeeping Council. Its constitution specifies a governing Board of nine men delegated by the three member associations, and—eventually—a paid secretary chosen from outside this committee, whose office will become a clearing house of information for the whole industry on such matters as

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WE SELL BEE SUPPLIES BY
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EXCLUSIVELY
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"The Best of Everything for the Garden"

laws, prices, grading, trade practices, tariffs, credits, research, etc.

This Council is the logical and emphatic expression by the beekeeping industry of a will to put its house in order, to work together continuously for stabilization and improvement. Evidence of its determination to bring about unified action is the constitutional provision that all actions must be supported by unanimous vote.

The membership of the committee (the **Council Board**) now is:

E. G. Brown, of Iowa, Chairman

W. E. Anderson, Louisiana, Vice-Chairman

E. B. Everitt, Pennsylvania, Treas. and acting Secretary

O. H. Schmidt, Michigan

L. M. White, Oregon

(These five men elected by the **National Federation of State Beekeepers' Associations**)

Roy A. Grout, Illinois

Alan Root, Ohio

(These two men elected by the **Bee Industries Assoc.**)

R. F. Remer, Iowa

J. H. Paton, New York

The present acting Secretary would call attention to one point. Manufacturers and packers have stable and efficient organizations already at work. The state beekeepers associations can do no better than to contact Mr. M. J. Rahmlow, of Madison, Wisconsin, at once so that they can act with equal efficiency. A chain is no stronger than its weakest link.

E. B. Everitt, acting Secretary
2445 Allen Street
Allentown, Pennsylvania.

4-H CLUB NOTES

By Jessie Johnson

Luzerne County is proud of the boys and girls who have completed another year (1942) in 4-H Bee Work.

There are two clubs, the Luzerne Co. Bee 4-H and the Mt. Zion Bee Club. Luzerne Co. Bee 4-H was organized in 1941 while 1942 was the first year for the Mt. Zion Club.

The clubs members didn't average much honey due to the failure of crops throughout the state. Three members of the Mt. Zion Bee Club had some trouble with swarming in late August and lost most of their bees. The Luzerne Co. Bee 4-H produced a total of 831 lbs. The Mt. Zion, with all beginners, produced 382 lbs.

Eight boys and seven girls received merit ribbons at the Round Up.

The clubs couldn't go through their usual routine for meetings due to the war. A tour, which every member looked forward to, was impossible due to tire and gasoline shortage. The clubs generally held meetings with the County Bee Organization so Mr. Anderson and other speakers could attend.

The Luzerne Co. Bee 4-H had a weiner roast and a corn roast during the summer. To end the season, Jessie Johnson, leader, held a Hallowe'en Party at which time a 4-H flag was presented to the club. The flag was made by the girls of that organization.

These clubs were organized through the efforts of Mr. Hutchison, County Agent, Jessie Johnson and members of the County Organization. If, in your county, there isn't a Bee 4-H Club organized why not get one? The girls and boys in these 4-H clubs are the Beekeepers of tomorrow. Why not give them a good start?

NOTES FROM THE COUNTIES

CUMBERLAND COUNTY NOTES

By H. M. Snively

Cumberland County was no less favored during last season than any other part of the state. We had a very light crop of clover honey, and hardly any fall flow. In some sections, however, the fall crop was fair. Most of the honey crop of 1942 is exhausted in this area. Beekeepers report about one-third the amount of surplus harvested the previous year. We have had a mild fall, but now winter is here in extreme. The bees have not had a chance to fly for several weeks. We can expect heavy loss this winter.

We are planning to held a meeting early in March, or as soon in March as arrangements can be made. We had a county 4-H Bee Club last year with seven members, and we expect to re-organize again this year.

got all but four colonies packed, then ran out of packing material. I thought by not packing these four I could compare them with the rest of the yard. Most of my packing consisted of slaters felt on sides, with shaving on bottom and top. Inner covers were turned over and all loosened from the hive body. This was done to provide for escape of moisture. Entrance blocks were put in up side down, to provide for a space for dead bees without clogging the entrance too quickly.

Our bees have not had a flight since in November. Snow is deepest for many winters. Rain took off all the snow at the time of the high water, a couple of weeks ago. It started to snow again and covered the fields and meadows, wheat should come through in fine condition. Bees should also, if they can get a flight within a month or five weeks. Most of my bees went into winter quarters, with from 40 to 60 lb. of honey and pollen. I would say about 40 to 50% of bees here in Crawford county are unpacked.

We certainly need inspection, I would like to have the State use Crawford county for a trial inspection, where the Inspector burns all diseased colonies himself or is present when burning is done. The method, the state now carries on, is not satisfactory to beekeepers in our county, at least to the ones who are trying to get ahead. The method of educating the beekeepers to take care of the disease is O. K. and should be continued but there are some who will never pay any attention and to these efforts. I would like to see

CRAWFORD COUNTY NOTES

by

Myrton Gray

January 11, 1943

With things as they are, will be unable to come to Harrisburg for the meeting, much as I would like to.

I see in the December issue of the Pennsylvania Beekeeper that you are heading a program of Research. I feel this was a work long needed, and believe it will succeed under your leadership. Here's wishing you find enjoyment and luck in this work.

I was busy getting my bees packed,

ATTENTION BEEKEEPERS!—BUY RIGHT!

At the factory store. Write for free catalog.

PURE BEESWAX WANTED

HIGHEST PRICES PAID

THE HUBBARD APIARIES

Manufacturers of Bee Supplies and Comb Foundation
ONSTED, MICHIGAN

ROOT
BEE
SUPPLIES
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Indiana, Pa.

90 YEARS A HARDWARE STORE

our county inspected as is the State of Ohio. Our beekeepers who are interested in seeing our county cleaned up, would help out the inspectors on this set up. Our county Commissioner would also help.

LYCOMING COUNTY NOTES

by Judson Naval, Pres.

A survey of the bee situation in Lycoming Co. indicated a loss of 12% due to weak colonies and shortage of food. There seems to be a lot of brood for this time of the year, and many are applying for sugar for food so colonies can continue to develop. In spite of the loss many are planning to make increase and the enthusiasm is at its height. All hope for a better flow this year than during the 1942 season.

We have secured twelve additional 4-H members and have thirty-six members in the county association.

Many packages are being ordered from the south.

The price of honey is from \$.85 to \$1.00 for 5 lb. pail.

A meeting is planned for March at which time we expect to have with us John M. Amos, new State Bee Specialist, to discuss Spring management and make a survey of conditions in general. The 1942 drive will be continued against A. F. B. We hope to eliminate this menace as soon as possible.

A drive for new members will be made in the near future. The election of officers and banquet will come in May. We look forward to nice weather and a good flow during 1943.

The members of the Lycoming County Association wish to express our best wishes to other county organizations in Pennsylvania.

BRADFORD COUNTY NOTES

By Harry W. Beaver

The winter is past and Spring has come and the voice of the tractor is again heard in the land, almost.

Today, March 14th, the bees had a partial flight, the second since November. The other was February 20th. However the bees seem contented. Upon investigation they were not clustered when the temperature was at 24 above zero. In the heavy packing it takes zero weather to make them cluster. Winter breeding? Not a bit, I wish you could see them. Very little brood even now, but wait 'till May 1st—how they do boom. While unpacked colonies are wearing out trying to rear brood, those in heavy packing are waiting 'till maple and elm bloom to do their stuff.

Can I get a pail of honey? No; sorry, but we are out. This is a question and answer we hear every day a dozen times or so.

It is a rare thing for us to be out of honey but incessant and continuous demand rapidly and surely depleted our honey pile.

Now, above all times, to be out of honey is truly a calamity. Just when we could get it into the homes where it has never been is an opportunity that only comes once in a generation, and I am sure we all regret the way the demand is created. Surely pros-

perity cannot be made by destruction of property and lives.

With the market bare of honey when new crop is available the demand will be terrific, and we hope the new crop will be a bumper to supply the demand.

Clover does not look so well at this time as there has been so much of the time that there has not been sufficient snow cover, and it looks pretty brown now, and the freezing and thawing is not helping matters. The peach crop has been frozen (not by the government) thru the northern tier and most of New York State.

When fruit is scarce honey is always in greater demand.

One man said why don't you have

the bees make honey. I said, what out of? Snowbanks? He said "why no, can't you feed sugar and make twice the amount in honey?" So this is the advertising we get from all this hot air about beekeepers demanding sugar to feed their bees. Why rob the bees of their natural stores? When will bee men learn to keep colonies in double brood chambers loaded with honey for profit. A colony with plenty of honey, a young queen and adequate packing needs not one single minute of attention from November 'till May 1st. And that's something when help is not to be had. Or is it. And here is hoping that the honey crop will be as big as we all expect. Keep your dish right side up by having all supplies ready before the bees fly.

FROM HERE AND THERE

A FEW WORDS FROM FLORIDA

By P. S. Ziegler

January 25, 1943

We, meaning my brother Philip, Dad and myself, arrived at Clearwater on the 9th of January. Did not get started as soon as we had expected.

Up to date, we have had a very mild winter, just a few light frosts but not enough to freeze anything. The tem-

perature goes up in the 70's or 80's most every day.

Most of my bees were short of stores when I arrived, but in good shape and building up well. They are busy carrying pollen and a little honey from a variety of wild flowers like Spanish-needle. I saw also a few early citrus trees blooming, and peaches have started to bloom. If this weather keeps up we will have an early orange honey flow. It normally starts the latter part

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of February, but I am afraid it may turn cold yet like it has for the last few years.

I am sorry I could not stay for the state bee meeting. I sure would like to hear about it.

We are having quite a time getting things together to make packages, but I guess we will make out all right. We can get the lumber but it is hard to get the wire. So far we haven't been able to get anything but galvanized wire. I used some last year, it seems to be O. K., but it's more expensive. I have some tin cans for feeders but not enough, may have to use glass.

Fishing has been very good so far, although I haven't taken time to go, but they are catching some very nice redfish just now.

NOTES FROM THE PROVINCE OF SASKATCHEWAN

by R. M. Pugh, Canada

As with you, there is quite an interest in expansion here. Our beekeepers are making all the increase possible but equipment and package bees are now getting very difficult to get. The Provincial Beekeepers' Association, which purchases bees for members, has increased its purchases of packages by 50% this season. Our weather has been most severe since early December with the temperature below 50 degrees for several weeks. It is only recently that we have had a break in the weather. In spite of the extreme cold, bees appear to be wintering well and we should not have a heavy winter loss.

REVIEW OF THE SEASON

by E. J. Anderson

The early part of the winter was cold and stormy. Heavy snows covered the ground in Northern Pennsylvania and chilled the air even on days when the temperature rose to nearly 50° F. In the Southern part of the State, where the snow had melted, the bees flew freely during January. In Northern Pennsylvania, the first good flight weather came during the latter part of February. Bees flew freely during this warm weather and are now in no danger of suffering from dysentery.

Lack of food is still a serious problem over most of the state. Many colonies have starved and many more will starve between now and the early flow in April or May. Beekeepers are urged to feed their bees at once and save as many colonies as possible, the bees are needed for pollination and for the production of wax and honey.

Large quantities of honey that were held in storage have recently begun to find their way into the retail markets. Many million of pounds had been withdrawn from the market. This honey was stored partly because of the low ceilings and the uncertainty of price regulations. The last regulation or MPB 275 removed the uncertainty to a considerable extent. Prices of what honey is on the market vary greatly in the larger markets. One pound bottles of good quality honey may be purchased at prices ranging from 25 to 50 cents. Local honey is about 95% off the market. Most local beekeepers sold all their honey before the holidays and are now out of honey and can not find any to supply their normal trade.

Metal bee supplies are going to be difficult to get because of the small allotment given the manufacturers, few if any large extractors will be built. Most of the metal available will go into wire, nails, smokers and other small items. Wooden supplies and foundation will be more plentiful.

Package shippers are already booked full for April and May deliveries. Delays and other difficulties may be encountered because of the heavy demand for package bees. The purchasing of sugar for package bees will again be a problem since it takes about 20 pounds to develop a strong colony on foundation and about fifteen pounds when the bees are placed on drawn combs.

THE NEW BEE SPECIALIST

The new Extension Bee Specialist for Pennsylvania is J. M. Amos, who was engaged in entomology and beekeeping work in the state of Delaware. Mr. Amos has had a number of years of experience in Delaware where the conditions are similar to those of Pennsylvania. For this reason, he should be able to understand the problems of our beekeepers and be of real assistance in developing the industry.

Mr. Amos began work in Pennsylvania on March 1st and by the time this issue is received will be traveling about the state in his new field of work.

NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS FOR 1943

It may seem a little late for New Year's resolutions but these are submitted for your consideration. We can resolve to keep them as a vow made, as a sacred trust and an obligation in this critical war time year to come. Will the beekeepers meet the challenge?

1. Never again to put another swarm or keep it in a box or other form of unproductive hive but have all straight combs in movable frames.

2. Never again to be so foolish as to take the risk from disease of moving for transfer any box or immovable comb hives into another yard containing any other bees, but to do all such work in isolation or where such hives are bought or located before removal; and if any AFB should be opened up by such transfer, to make a bonfire promptly. But above all, never again to tolerate any box hives or other junk hives from which the combs cannot be removed and adequately inspected for disease.

3. To, first of all put all my own colonies into production and next to see that all bees of men in service of our country in my neighborhood are put into production too, and kept free from disease. I will do this if I have to work overtime.

4. To keep my honey house neat and clean and put up only a product that

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is clean and of which I shall not be ashamed.

5. To get my supplies ordered early and everything ready before the flow comes and to make sure to have enough 60's to hold my crop.

6. Not to blame the bee supply dealer for my own neglect when and if he cannot supply my needs at a moment's notice after the flow starts when he may be swamped with orders or temporarily out of supplies or unable to get any more. To keep in mind we cannot do everything or get everything as we once did in the days of thick beef steaks and gasoline.

7. To see my sugar rationing board and get the necessary orders for bee feeding sugar; to get my feeder pails ready and get the necessary correspondence and orders away for package bees to be needed with a satisfactory shipping date settled so that I can receive my shipments as soon after April 20th as possible or when wanted.

8. Never to attempt to use the "shake or brush-out method" of treating AFB, but to gas and burn the contents of such hives promptly.

9. To control AFB in my own outfit and territory and to help my neighbors and the bee inspector all I can in this work.

10. To observe the OPA ceiling prices on sales of my honey and wax faithfully and to buy all the War Bonds I can afford.

11. To avoid crowding the territory of my neighbor or being a disease menace at any time.

12. To try a little harder to check all of my own colonies regularly for disease and in every way possible to eliminate all infection on my own premises or in my own colonies and insofar as possible make it less necessary for

the bee inspector to go through all of my colonies every year.

13. Not to wait until cold weather in the fall to request the services of the bee inspector when disease does show up or is suspected and certainly not try to keep it a secret.

14. To subscribe for a good beekeeper's magazine and read it.

15. To cooperate with my neighboring beekeepers and the bee inspector to get all sources of infection cleaned up in my locality.

16. To make a special effort to get all of my own equipment into use and to secure the complete sterilization of all used equipment in the community.

17. To send in my annual dues of 50c to the Secretary and include another 75c for my favorite magazine.

18. Finally, I will be a better beekeeper in 1943 and I will make the bees pay their way.

It is foolish for the beekeeper to wait on OPA or any other governmental agency to make all the decisions and to determine what to do. Why wait for someone in Washington or somewhere else to solve all our problems? Expert labor to help care for his bees is always hard for the beekeeper to get and particularly now; some supplies may prove to be hard to secure this season but self help is a sure bet. That applies to getting the knowledge of the symptoms of the brood diseases and how to distinguish them apart at sight and the many problems of management. In brief, the beekeeper, who has by study and experience acquired the knowledge to determine what page we are on in these matters of disease control and expert honey production is the one most likely to succeed. The winter months usually afford the most time for reading, study, planning and preparations.

THE PENNSYLVANIA BEEKEEPER

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VOL. 18 NO. 2

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The Pennsylvania Beekeeper

Official Organ of the Pennsylvania State Beekeepers' Association, Published Quarterly. Membership and Subscription Price inclusive \$1.00

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Frederick Hahman, Altoona, Pa. | Adv. Mgr., Harry W. Beaver, Troy, Pa.

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PROGRAM OF THE FORTIETH PENNSYLVANIA STATE BEEKEEPER'S CONFERENCE

Saturday, August 21, 1943

Pennsylvania State College

The group will gather in the woods at the rear of the Horticulture Building.

Presiding—Prof. E. B. Everitt, Allentown.

Registration—9:30.

Beginning of Program—10:00.

Greetings—Dr. S. W. Fletcher, Dean of the School of Agriculture.

How to Get the Most From Our Bees During the War—George H. Rea, Reynoldsville.

Present Trends in Agriculture—Dr. Glenn W. Hedlund.

My First Glimpse of Pennsylvania Beekeeping—John M. Amos, State College.

Report of Apiary Inspection—H. B. Kirk, Senior Entomologist, Harrisburg.

Findings of the Research Department—Prof. E. J. Anderson, Prof. of Agriculture, State College.

12:00 to 1:30—Basket Lunch.

1:30—A word from Dr. Lininger, Director of the Agricultural Experiment Stations.

1:45—Demonstration by the Center County 4-H Bee Club.

2:00—Tour of the Apiary and Extracting Room of the Department of Research in Beekeeping.

SUGGESTIONS TO THOSE ATTENDING THE CONFERENCE

The above is the program of the annual summer conference of the Pennsylvania State Beekeeper's Association. Those who wish to attend and travel by car should contact their boards for gas coupons. There are no trains running into State College but a bus meets most of the trains at Bellefonte, Tyrone and Lewistown; it is, however, very difficult in general and from many points impossible to get connections into and out of State College in one day. There are some bus connections for longer distances. Information can be obtained from the local railway or bus stations about connections to State College. It would be well to check on these connections since they change from time to time under present conditions.

Beekeepers are urged to bring along a basket lunch because of crowded conditions in the local restaurants. By bringing a basket lunch, time can also be saved for the general program. Ice cream (honey), milk or other dairy products can be purchased at the College Creamery. Coffee or lemonade will be provided by the County Association.

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saved for the general program. Ice cream (honey), milk or other dairy pro-
ducts can be purchased at the College Creamery. Coffee or lemonade will be
provided by the County Association.

If any beekeepers desire to stay over night they should write E. J. Anderson, 12 Frear Laboratories, State College, Pa., so that a room can be reserved at some residence.

The group should gather in the woods behind the Horticulture Building. There will be benches and tables.

In case of rain, the conference will be held in Room 109 of the Agriculture Building.

REPORT OF THE 40TH ANNUAL MEETING AT HARRISBURG (Continued)

E. J. Anderson spoke on Research Work in Beekeeping at the Pennsylvania State College.

Business session.

A motion was made by Mr. Singer that the Association pay \$25 to the American Honey Institute. Motion carried.

Mr. Snavely gave a few remarks regarding our membership in the American Home Producers' League. A motion was made by Mr. Reustle and seconded by Cummins that we continue our membership in the American Honey Producers' League and to pay the \$12 dues. Motion carried.

Following this motion there was quite a lengthy discussion—pro and con—as to whether the Association should have representation at the Honey Producers' League meeting in Chicago on February 26 and 27. Mr. Snavely and Dr. Dyce were very much in favor of having some one attend this meeting—Mr. Fleck was not so sure about it. Finally, a motion was made by Mr. Cummins and seconded by Mr. Reustle that a delegate be appointed. Mr. Reustle suggested paying \$25 from the Association treasury and the balance to be made up by individual contributions.

The names of Beaver, Sandt, Snavely and Anderson were suggested as possible delegates. Beaver and Sandt withdrew because of inability to go, so a motion was made by Mr. Fleck and seconded by Mr. Sandt that Mr. Snavely and Mr. Anderson go to the Chicago meeting. The motion was accepted. Mr. Everitt suggested that the Executive Committee work out the method of financing the trip.

Motion was made by Mr. Reustle to leave the plans for the summer meeting in the hands of the committee—seconded by Mr. Fleck, motion carried.

There was a brief discussion as to the purchasing of some instrument for the research laboratory at State College. The motion was made by Mr. Reustle that the Association purchase an instrument for the lab;—motion carried. It was suggested that the Secretary write to the county organizations and ask for a contribution for this gift. It was moved and seconded that Mr. Anderson make the choice of this instrument—motion carried.

Mr. Herr's paper was read by Mr. Everitt.

Mr. Anderson spoke on "Maintaining the Colony Morale."

All committees then reported.

Auditing committee—Moved by Mr. Singer and seconded by Mr. Berkey that the report be adopted. Motion carried.

The report of the Legislative Committee was given by Mr. Good: He had no report of any action but said that the committee will meet with the Secretary of Agriculture in March and will present the wishes of the beekeepers at that time. Mr. Good suggested that we assist Mr. Kirk to get inspectors. Anyone who knows someone who could do inspection work is re-

quested to turn their names in to Mr. Kirk or encourage them to write to the department. In regard to the research at State College, it was suggested that we keep in touch with Mr. Anderson and render any assistance and particularly watch that the necessary appropriations come through.

The Show Committee report was given by Mr. Snavely. He reported that the group met twice during the year. In spring, the meeting was held primarily to find out whether or not there would be a Farm Show this year. All livestock men were opposed because of not having use of the buildings. They were opposed to keeping their stock in different places throughout the city. A modified show was proposed but that apparently did not receive enough support. Later a meeting was held for the purpose of making the program which we have conducted. A meeting of the Farm Show Commission will probably be held soon and members elected to make up the Farm Show Commission. The Commission is made up of the Secretary of Agriculture, his deputy and a few elective members.

A motion made by Mr. Sandt that the organization pay the fare and expenses for Mr. Snavely to Chicago. Motion carried.

Motion made by Mr. Sandt that the Association pay also the fare and expenses for Mr. Anderson if the college can not see its way clear to finance his expenses. Motion carried.

Motion made by Mr. Good and seconded by Mr. Berkey that our usual program be so changed that all the essential business be disposed of by the time we adjourn for lunch. Motion carried.

Following Mr. Fleck's summary a motion was made and carried that the 40th annual meeting be adjourned.

CARE AND HANDLING OF HONEY IN THE HONEY HOUSE

By E. J. DYCE, Cornell

Premature crystallization and the necessity of reconditioning this crystallized honey is one of the chief problems of the packer. The object is to overcome this problem and at the same time retain all the virtues of honey in preparing it for market.

Before outlining some of the experiments which were conducted in an effort to retard crystallization, it is desirable to briefly review some of the factors known to stimulate crystal-

formation. Since the factors causing crystallization are known, it is logical to assume that in order to prevent crystallization a procedure in direct opposition should give the desired results.

Honey is composed of two sugars known as dextrose and levulose. Dextrose forms crystal, while levulose remains in the liquid form around the dextrose crystals. Practically all honeys are saturated with respect to dextrose at temperatures below 86 degrees F. In other words, most honeys contain more dextrose than can actu-

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ally be held in solution at or below normal room temperatures. This means that crystallization is possible and will normally take place unless prevented.

Honeys high in dextrose will usually granulate within a few days, while those high in levulose may remain liquid for months, or years. Premature crystallization is therefore experienced largely in honeys having a high percentage of dextrose.

Crystals in honey form about nuclei. These nuclei are usually fragments of dextrose hydrate crystals, but may also be organic particles, or minute air bubbles. The presence of such nuclei stimulate crystal formation roughly in proportion to their amount and number.

Factors stimulating crystal formation are inter-related. Nevertheless it is logical to assume that if these factors are controlled, early or premature crystallization should not be difficult to control.

In one experiment, eight 60-gallon quantities of honey, varying in color, specific gravity, pollen grains, air bubbles and other inclusions, were secured for experimental purposes. The honey was treated in various ways, and samples were drawn and placed in a room with a controlled temperature of about 57 degrees F., which has been found to be the most favorable temperature for crystallization.

Thorough straining appeared to be

the greatest single factor in preventing crystallization. Honeys strained through cheese cloth granulated more quickly than those strained through canton flannel; and honeys strained through one thickness of canton flannel granulated more quickly than those strained through two layers of canton flannel. However, it was found impossible to strain honey even through one layer of canton flannel unless the honey was heated to above 140 degrees F.

Several honeys were heated to different temperatures for varying lengths of time. It was found that the more the honeys were heated the longer they remained liquid. Prolonged heating should of course be avoided, as it darkens the honey, reduces the flavor and destroys the enzymes.

The honeys which contained an excess of air bubbles granulated more quickly. Samples which were placed under 26 inches of vacuum to remove the air remained liquid for a greater length of time. No loss of flavor could be detected when the honey was placed under vacuum for 5 minutes, but further subjection to vacuum removed the flavor in direct relation to the length of time the vacuum was drawn. Vacuum equipment is costly and unquestionably reduces the flavor of the honey.

Very good results were obtained by straining warm honey through wire cloth which has from eighty- to 100-

mesh to the inch. Better results may be obtained by straining honey through a series of wire mesh cloths varying from 12- to 100-mesh to the inch.

Air bubbles are foreign to honey and are usually incorporated through carelessness in the removal and preparation of the crop for market. If proper care is taken in this regard, it would not be necessary to use a vacuum. If the honey is kept in a warm room from the time it is taken off the hives until it is packed for market, most of the air bubbles which are accidentally incorporated will have an opportunity to rise to the surface.

Once air bubbles are incorporated into honey, they are very difficult to remove. Each time the honey is pumped or strained, bubbles are broken up into smaller ones, which owing to their small size are still more difficult to remove. Honeys intended for the liquid trade should be kept free of air bubbles by keeping the honey warm during extraction and avoiding the use of a pump.

Honey drawn from cappings, and especially from the capping melter, usually contain a large number of pollen grains and other inclusions which stimulate crystallization. Such honey should be sold separately and not mixed with honey intended for the liquid trade.

When preparing liquid honey it should be gently heated to about 150 degrees F. to dissolve the dextrose crystals as well as to facilitate thor-

ough straining. As the honey is raised in temperature it should be gently stirred to avoid overheating any one portion of the honey. Prolonged heating should be avoided, as it darkens the honey and lowers the flavor.

The source of heat should be removed immediately after the desired temperature is reached and all the crystals are dissolved. The honey should then be thoroughly strained by gravity or pressure through some material that will remove practically all the particles which will act as nuclei for crystal formation.

The honey should then be run into the desired containers and sealed while hot. As the honey cools a partial vacuum is usually created in the container above the honey. This assists in drawing air bubbles to the surface of the honey. Since honey rapidly forms crystals at low temperatures liquid honeys should be stored in a warm room.

SOME COMPENSATIONS FROM BEEKEEPING

ROY H. HERR

It has been said that a good (or even a tolerable) speaker should observe three B's. So, since we are all beekeepers, and since I have a great deal of respect for you, I shall try to keep those three B's in mind, namely: Be sincere; Be brief, and Be seated.

Now for some compensations from beekeeping. Folks have said to me, "I

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suppose beekeeping is a profitable business"; others have inquired, "Are bees very profitable?" While still another suggests that "No doubt there is very little money in bees." If you had kept bees in Lancaster County in 1942 I suspect you would be asking—What Compensations? Surely bees made us no money this past season.

Well, financial compensations from bees will not be discussed in this brief talk. Not because I feel that we should not be concerned about keeping bees on a business basis, for I do think bees should pay their way; but because I feel we in Pennsylvania are fortunate to have as our Extension Apiarist, Prof. Anderson, who untiringly suggests to us methods of seasonal management, location of entrances, etc., to the end that correct methods and practices will make us much money from bees. Let us be thankful for "Andy" and grateful for his sincere efforts in Bee Extension Work.

The keeping of bees is so intensely interesting that it is continually a source of fascination. Folks engaged in activity they do not enjoy in the least soon become "sour-natured." It would seem that beekeepers have every reason to become "sweet-natured."

One of the rewards (and it is perhaps the greatest non-financial compensation) that comes from the keeping of bees is the effect that it has

upon the beekeeper's nature and personality. An excellent example of this thought is recorded in Frank Pellet's POSTSCRIPT in December, 1942, issue of the American Bee Journal. The account concerns "Old Daddy Mahan" whose living came from the keeping of bees, a garden and a few fruit trees. He lived across the road from the old home of Andrew S. Wing, editor of Garden Digest. Mr. Wing says, "He was a swell old guy with long white whiskers. My father went to school with him. His wife was a sweet soul with some quaint Pennsylvania expressions. They died long ago, bless their hearts, but I shall always remember them as among the gentlest and finest people I have ever known."

Personally, I am inclined to credit the bees for contributing toward the gentleness and fineness that editor Wing sensed in the Mahan couple. I have known and have read about beekeepers who have "grown fine character and their good qualities such as gentleness, kindness, honesty, generosity, and dependability. I feel that the keeping of bees tends to inspire these good qualities which result in the respect of our acquaintances.

I am not quite as old as my greying hair would indicate, and therefore, I lack experience along a great number of lines. However, in my limited experience, I think I have learned

that generally when a beekeeper is introduced to someone, that person seems to become interested at once. Bees make good conversation and in themselves help a beekeeper to "Win Friends and Influence People." Just as a word of warning if our bees molest some sensitive neighbor, they might be the means of "Losing Friends and Alienating People."

Far be it from me to deny the identity of the beekeeper whose mother-in-law suffered from neuritis, for which her doctor prescribed bee venom; and this was to be administered by friend son-in-law. I believe most beekeepers are willing to relieve pain and discomfort (even though the treatment might hurt a little) and so this beekeeper was pleased to offer his professional services. On the other hand, I suspect some sons-in-law would give a good bit to have the opportunity of administering mother-in-law medicine of this sort, and at the same time say; well, my dear, this is just what the doctor ordered.

In brief, some (rather than all) of the compensations from beekeeping are: the tendency to acquire a fine character, to win the admiration and respect of those with whom we come in contact; the increased ability to make progress socially; not to mention the tendency to improve "in-law" relationships. And finally, we have the privilege of mingling with other beekeepers with mutual interests and

who enjoy these distinct advantages.

For this reason, I feel that meetings of this type have much value in addition to the education we receive and the business we conduct.

Since circumstances beyond my control have forced me to be absent, I do want to express my heartiest wishes for a pleasant and profitable meeting and to one and all a successful, productive 1943. Thank you.

REVIEW OF THE MEETINGS By JOHN FLECK

The first session was opened by President E. B. Everitt and the invocation was offered by Rev. Snavely.

There were 23 members present at the opening session.

A very fine address of welcome was given by Secretary of Agriculture, John H. Light, in which he described the work of inspection during the past three years and the fine cooperation of this and all other associations during his term. The response given by Elmer Reustle resulted in a rising vote of thanks being tendered Secretary Light for his cooperation with the beekeepers. Dr. E. J. Dyce gave a very interesting address on "Handling Honey in the Honey House," then answered questions regarding this subject. Miles Horst, newly appointed Secretary of Agriculture, was presented to the beekeepers. He encouraged the beekeep-

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ers to continue their fight against A. F. B. and offered his full cooperation.

Afternoon session—Mr. Harry B. Kirk summarized the Inspection Work during the year. He had observed that the small beekeepers are decreasing in number. Mr. Kirk suggested that beekeepers plan their own inspection for foulbrood and not depend entirely on State Inspectors. He emphasized the need for a larger force of deputy inspectors.

The present officers were reelected for the ensuing year: Mr. Everitt, President; Roy Herr, Vice-President, and Rev. Snively, Secretary-Treasurer. The report of the Secretary-Treasurer was given in two parts. It was accepted as read. Financial report was read and accepted subject to auditing committee's report.

President Everitt gave a very comprehensive account of the activities of the year and appointed the necessary committees. An appropriation of \$25 was made to American Honey Institute and \$12.00 dues to Honey Producers League. After a lengthy and heated discussion on the request to send delegates to a meeting of the League at Chicago on January 26th and 27th it was voted to send one or more delegates. Rev. Snively and Prof. Anderson were chosen to go.

The banquet was held Tuesday evening at the Sixth Street U. B. Church, where a very fine meal was served.

Grace and thanks were offered by Rev. Snively. Mr. D. C. Babcock of A. I. Root Co., Medina, Ohio, acted as toastmaster. After the meal, Dr. Dyce gave an interesting and informative talk on "War Time Beekeeping," explaining in detail the operation of the OPB and WPB at Washington as it affects beekeepers. Prof. Anderson showed a set of slides on seasonal management and explained them. W. Irvin Galt, Cumberland County, presented a second set of pictures portraying the work of the 4-H clubs of Cumberland County.

10:00 a. m., Wednesday—Session was again opened by the President. Dr. Dyce spoke on the subject, "Preparing and Packing of Honey for the Retail Trade." He suggested piling honey cans on strips of wood so as to keep them dry. Yeast grows most readily at temperatures over sixty degrees. Cold temperatures are essential in caring for honey.

An interesting paper of Roy Herr's was read by the President in Mr. Herr's absence. Prof. Anderson gave an address on Colony Morale.

Report of Legislative Committee. Leonard Good will arrange for meeting with Secretary of Agriculture. Reports of other committees and Resolutions Committee will be published in the following issues of The Beekeeper. (Already published—Ed.)

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NOTES FROM THE COUNTIES

ALLEGHENY COUNTY NOTES

JOHN S. FLECK

With the twenty-eight days of rain in May, the bees had little chance to secure honey from fruit bloom, locust or early blooming plants.

During May we had double the normal rain fall, so hence the ground is soaked.

Some victory gardens planted in April are doing nicely, others may have to be replanted. The great rush to set out plants is on. Every vacant plot of ground in or near Pittsburgh and nearby cities is being cultivated. It is smart to have a victory garden even if you have to walk some distance and carry your tools. It is also quite O K to dig up your back yard or lawn for a vegetable garden. It is difficult to anticipate how this will affect the honey crop. We depend, to a greater or less extent, on clover, basswood, locust and fall flowers for our honey crop.

The bees have built up quite strong despite the rainy weather and with the hot spell of the past three days we are liable to have an epidemic of swarming, even though plenty of super space is provided. All things considered we have reason to look for a good season.

We are advised that all Western Pennsylvania Counties will have state

inspection this year. Allegheny County has not yet been assigned an inspector.

The annual meeting of Allegheny County Beekeepers Association was held at Downtown Y. M. C. A., Wood street and Third avenue, Saturday, March 13th, 1943. About forty persons attended, including both members and visitors. The principal speaker was Mr. J. M. Amos, our new Extension Apiarist from State College. Of course, we missed Mr. E. J. Anderson, who had been a regular attendant at our meetings, and had been much appreciated over a period of years.

Mr. Amos was very interesting and instructive. His subject was, "Money in the Bank," or "Pollen in the Brood Chamber." The address and discussion was appreciated by those present. Our County Agent, Mr. Henry R. Eby, made a few encouraging remarks which were also much appreciated by the beekeepers.

A number of new members were added to our Association.

All the incumbent officers were re-elected.

The matter of a summer outing or meeting was left in the hands of the Executive Committee for such action as the gas restriction and other conditions will permit at the time.

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CUMBERLAND COUNTY NOTES

By H. M. SNAVELY

Cumberland County Beekeepers Association held its annual meeting on March 24. It extended over both the afternoon and evening. The attendance was good and the response to the county and state association was also good. We have received dues from fourteen members this year. Mr. John Amos, Extension Apiarist from State College, was present, he gave a talk on the need of pollen in the hive during the spring building up period.

The members decided to pay \$5.00 to the American Honey Institute, and also \$10.00 to the work of research which is handled by Mr. E. J. Anderson, State College. The ladies of the county association served the group with refreshments at the close of the evening meeting. Mr. P. M. Beam was elected President for another year; Mr. F. W. Boldoser, Vice-President, and the writer Secretary-Treasurer.

A second meeting was held May 18 in the yard of E. H. Sachs, which is located near Blossville. There was a fair attendance at this meeting and Mr. Amos was again present. Weather and soil conditions are favorable in our county for a good honey flow. Many colonies are low in population this spring, however. The late season will help out by giving the bees more time to develop. Locust and sweet

clover are about two weeks late. The losses this winter were not as heavy as had been expected, though many colonies were very weak. In some parts of the county colonies have already swarmed, probably due to an overcrowded condition in the hive. The bees worked hard on locust for several days during the week of May 24. At this writing, the weather is cool, and a lot of rain is falling which will likely stop the locust flow. Most colonies are now in a fair condition for the clover if the weather is favorable.

ERIE COUNTY NOTES

By ERNEST M. BENDURE

Our last beekeepers meeting was held during a black-out, it was the day there were two practice alarms. We drove the last few blocks with parking lights and arrived at the meeting just before cars were stopped altogether. When we stepped into the meeting room it was so dark that we could identify nobody. We were able to see nothing but dark spots where the members were sitting. We were helped to empty chairs by someone who had been inside long enough to have become accustomed to the dark.

The speaker, John Amos, continued to speak on the subject of, "Supplementary Feeding," throughout the darkness. I think we followed his line

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of thought better because of the dark inasmuch as there was nothing to distract our attention from listening. Mr. Amos was well acquainted with his subject to talk for an hour as he did in the dark.

The very cold weather in March killed all peach buds, and even the wood up to the diameter of a man's finger. Cherry, plum, and apple buds were not hurt. The cool rainy weather has delayed the blossoms about three weeks behind normal. We had hoped that when they did open, the weather would be warm and clear so we could get a surplus of fruit blossom honey, but the bees have gathered only enough to hold their own and maintain a steady expansion of the brood nest.

Most bees needed feeding this spring and many starved outright. This was especially noticeable of colonies in windswept locations. Many of the small beekeepers have lost every colony of bees but some other small beekeepers, who requeened last fall, fed this spring and furnished windbreaks, had very little or no loss.

LEHIGH VALLEY NOTES

By E. B. EVERITT

We are still keeping bees in the Lehigh Valley, but we don't talk with the calm assurance of two years back of our work as "honey producers." Our bees went into the winter after a poor summer of miscellaneous flows (all poor) in very ordinary condition. Probably many of the queens should have been replaced last summer; the bees

would have done it themselves had there been a late summer flow. Then the continued cold and the excessive humidity did the rest. March 15 the first pollen came in, but very little came—I counted a total of five hours of flight between then and April 18. The logical outcome was a heavy loss of colonies, about 25 percent, I should estimate for our area. It is remarkable that most of the surviving colonies are now in rather good shape for the flow, which just began today, June 16.

We have had all sorts of experiences with packages this spring. At a field meeting at my apiary on May 15, Mr. Amos went through eighteen packages I had installed between April 5 and 17. The comparisons of those from each of three shippers were most informative of the difference in quality of bees and conditions of shipment. All were put in on drawn combs, queens were released directly, and the eighteen stood in one straight row with exactly the same condition.

Ten, which came from a Georgia shipper, showed two good colonies of six frames of brood, one poor one of three frames with much drone intermixed (since has superseded), two attempted supersedures, and five in which no worker egg had ever been laid. The shipper has not replied as yet to several letters; the queenless bees have been joined to good colonies, and consequently the total gain on these ten packages is at present two good colonies in good shape for the flow.

Five came from a Louisiana ship-

To Our Customers:

The season was slow in opening up but we now have Hollopeter queens coming right along. Untested, single queen, 80c; 2 or more 75c each. Tested queen, \$1.50; breeders, \$6.00.

In order not to disappoint our regular customers and to help all we can to produce more honey and wax, we shall rear all the queens we can and in that way be using what ever skill we have acquired in 33 years queenbreeding, in the most effective way to help win the war.

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per (Bessonnet Bee Company). All were in excellent shape, having five to seven frames of brood and a good queen; they now occupy two hive bodies which are rather well filled with bees.

Three came from Florida (Paul Ziegler). They were even better, having five to eight frames of brood. At the present time they are very slightly ahead of the previously mentioned five from Louisiana.

These few examples would not be so significant were it not for the identical conditions maintained for the whole eighteen throughout the spring build-up period. If the packages continue to be our chief dependence for replacement and increase, our association might do well to carry a list of approved shippers to help Pennsylvania beekeepers in their buying.

The season looks reasonably promising now, but it isn't up to the opportunities in the market.

LYCOMING COUNTY NOTES

By J. A. NAVAL

We are happy to give you a report of the bee condition here in Lycoming County. First of all, our association members anticipate a fairly good year in yield and price. All of last year's honey has been sold. Due to the abundance of rain this spring, we should have a heavy clover flow.

All kinds of clover plants look good at this time. At present, wild cherry,

raspberry, blackberry and locust are open. Wild mustard is about gone.

Our county bees wintered over with a loss of about 15 percent. All hives are heavy with brood but with very little honey and pollen. Some swarms have been reported. Very few cases of A. F. B. have come to our attention (June 3rd).

The annual banquet of members of the Beekeepers Association was held on May 12th. It was attended by 75 members. Most of the old members signed up for another year, while several new members were added.

The meeting was addressed first by Mr. J. A. Naval, president. Interesting talks were given by Mr. E. J. Anderson, head of the research in beekeeping at State College and Mr. Elton Tait, former Assistant County Farm Agent. Mr. J. M. Amos was introduced to our group, he gave a very fine lecture and showed colored slides. The slides had to do with nectar and pollen producing plants of Pennsylvania.

The election of officers resulted in the selection of Oscar Farley for president; Leon Wheeland for vice-president; Thomas Williamson for secretary and treasurer. Yours truly, former president for three years, was elected honorary president.

I will give you a report this fall about the hives with the pollen traps attached and also the hive I have on scales.

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BRADFORD COUNTY NOTES

By HARRY W. BEAVER

From poverty to riches; almost. For almost twenty years, we have been keeping bees in double brood chambers, and have been free from anxiety as to starvation. This season almost caused some anxiety. Cold, wet weather that did not allow the bees to fly hardly at all, used up stores almost to the vanishing point at most of the yards and did vanish at five of them. So much so that I got nervous and bought sugar and fed them (the five yards) six to eight pounds of heavy syrup per colony, and in just one week they began to make their own living, but the feed saved about two hundred colonies that would otherwise have starved or lost their brood. Then came the clover and ideal weather with gains of eight to fourteen pounds per day without let up for twelve days then biff, back came the cool rainy weather, and no pick-up since. The scale colony shows a drop of eight pounds since June 27th. Although the honey is not all capped, we began extracting July 10th and have taken off one ton to satisfy a few customers who just insisted on getting some honey. The honey is of good body, color and flavor.

The bees seemed to be pretty even

in population when unpacked but later on seemed to become unequal so that only about two-thirds were really ready for the honey flow, due, I think, to poor queens.

During the last two years I have not done much requeening on account of help and partly to not being able to get the queens when I could use them. Perhaps we requeen 15 percent each year and an unknown percent supercede, more than we sometimes suspect, and of this percent perhaps five percent swarm when superceding. And by the way, Elmer Cornwall put a bug in my ear about decoy hives. Just stick them up in trees in out of the way places. He uses boxes and transfers them before they get much comb built, but I do not get around so often and that made a job to transfer a box of combs built at random, so now I fill them with good combs and presto, they go in just the same. I have caught twenty-nine to date this year.

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THE WATER CONTENT OF HONEY

By E. F. Phillips

Most beekeepers have the opinion that water content of honey is something over which they have no control. In the days of comb-honey production, beekeepers knew the necessity of proper ripening and sealing of honey before removal from the hives, and they studied methods whereby through hive ventilation this might be facilitated. In more recent extracted honey production, less attention is paid to this phase of colony management. Any colony that hangs out in hot weather is in no position to ripen honey suitably. Upward ventilation in the supers is sometimes desirable in warm weather to enable the bees to force currents of air through the hive to speed up ripening of the honey, but while upward ventilation is sometimes good in summer, it is not good in winter.

In the eastern states, too much of our honey goes to market with a water content that is too high for safety against fermentation. Last summer, for example, when considerable attention was being given to water content, samples were examined which had a water content as high as 23%, and such honey will ferment quickly. The ripening of honey is slowed down when the relative humidity of the outside air is high, and in weather of this sort, special attention should be given to make sure that the hive ventilation is such as to enable the bees to do their very best in ripening.

Losses from fermentation are also much higher in the eastern states than most of us realize. Unless steps are taken to prevent fermentation by heating the honey to destroy the yeasts which all honeys contain or by some other method, loss from fermentation will average over three percent on storage for a year, and storage for two years will result in an average loss of as much as twenty-five percent. Loss

from fermentation does not consist solely of the loss of the honey itself, but a worse feature is that such honey gets on grocery shelves and is sold to innocent consumers, who thereafter say that they do not like honey. This is the heaviest loss from this cause

The relation between crystal formation and fermentation is not always appreciated. When crystals form in honey, they are composed of what the chemist calls dextrose hydrate, which when interpreted into ordinary language means that for each molecule of dextrose in the crystal there is included one molecule of water, hence the water content of the crystals in honey is uniform. This percentage is exactly 9.09%. It should be clear that if part of the honey is separated out in crystal form with this low water content, the remaining portion of the honey which is not crystalized has a water content higher than that of the entire honey before the crystals were formed. Because of this, the water content of the liquid phase of the granulated honey may have a water content of several percent higher than that of the original honey.

When honey granulates, it seems to be solid, but this is not true. Only a relatively small percent of the honey goes into solid form, perhaps usually not more than 15%. The remaining part of the honey constitutes what is called the liquid phase, or about 85% of it is in liquid form, however solid it appears to be. The appearance of solidity arises from the fact that the crystals are

piled one on another in what we have come to call the internal structure, which supports the mass by an internal structure so as to give the appearance of solidity. Fermentation does not occur in the crystals but only in the liquid phase.

Another point of importance is that contact with air is unnecessary in fermentation, and fermentation may begin in any part of a mass of honey. The yeasts require oxygen for growth, but they can take that from the material broken down by their growth.

Water content of honey is changed quickly either before or after removal from the combs. For example, one of my students not long ago placed a series of containers of the same honey in vessels of different relative humidities and measured the changes of water content of the honeys. They all had a water content of 17.4% at the start. The samples placed in dry containers lost moisture, rather rapidly at first and then more slowly, until a balance was reached at which the water content remained constant. The point of balance was lower in the drier vessels. Honey placed in moist vessels increased in water content, rather rapidly at first and then more slowly, again until a balance was reached. This point of balance was lower for the more moist places. Without going into a lot of figures, the important result of this work will be indicated by the statement that honey, starting with a water content of 17.4%, in a vessel with a saturated atmosphere, increased in water

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content to 58% in six weeks. Such honey is of course not fit to eat.

The loss of or gain in water content occurs both before or after sealing, and the capping is not solid. Honey takes up or loses moisture after capping, both inside and outside the hive, and these points indicate the need of care that the honey does not take up moisture after removal from the hive.

Many beekeepers make mistakes here. Beekeepers often remove honey from the hives in the afternoon, take it to the honey house and leave it there overnight, and if the temperature drops, the relative humidity rises to an extent which damages the honey. Honey taken to a honey house should be left in a warm room, at a temperature of 85° F. or higher, not only to reduce water content but also to allow a good job of extracting to be done on the warmer honey. Probably it may be said that a good honey house is one with a hot room in it which is kept heated whenever honey is stored in it, and as

a matter of fact, if the room is hot, there should be no rush about extracting, for the honey will get better and better as time passes.

A point which has not been discussed adequately in beekeeping literature is that the flavor of honey improves with each step downward of the water content. A thin honey if well ripened is a far better product, and a considerable portion of what are known as off-grade honeys become good honeys with proper ripening, which means a reduction of the water content.

Beekeepers owe it to themselves, to the beekeeping industry and to their customers to produce honey of the best possible quality. We cannot control the bees in their gathering, but in large measure we can control the ripening of honey. Honey is a food which should be treated with respect at every phase of its handling, and in no place does there seem more room for improvement than in control of the water content.

(To be continued in the next issue)

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The Pennsylvania Beekeeper

Official Organ of the Pennsylvania State Beekeepers' Association, Published Quarterly. Membership and Subscription Price inclusive \$1.00

PUBLISHED BY DIRECTION OF THE ASSOCIATION

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The 40th Annual SUMMER MEETING and FIELD DAY - of the -

PENNSYLVANIA STATE BEEKEEPER'S ASSOCIATION

State College — August 21, 1943

The State Association held their annual meeting this year at State College, Saturday, August 21. The meeting was held in the woods near the Horticultural Building. There were approximately two hundred people at the meeting throughout the day. The group came from the four corners of the state making the industry well represented. Mr. Everitt, President, could not be present because of attending a meeting of the Beekeepers War Council in Washington, D. C. Mr. Roy Herr, Lancaster, vice-president, presided over the sessions. Dr. F. F. Lininger, Director of the Agricultural Experiment Station, welcomed the beekeepers. This was the first time the state meeting was held at the college. Dr. Lininger told of effect of the war on the college and about the adaptation of the research program to the war needs. Dr. Lininger referred briefly to the new program in apicultural research and stated that Professor Anderson would explain the work in more detail.

The whole group had a basket lunch at noon in the woods. Tables were

provided for the occasion. Honey ice cream was furnished by the college, and other refreshments by the Center County Beekeepers Association.

There also was a demonstration by the 4-H Bee Club of Center County. Miss Laura Peters and Joseph May portrayed the history of a years work in the 4-H Club. There was received some substantial amounts for equipment to be used in the research department.

The last number for the day was a tour of the equipment room and college apiary. Those present were divided into two groups. The first group stopped at the laboratory of Dr. Farrel to see bacteria and cultures of bacteria under a microscope. The second group went to the extracting and experimental rooms to see the extracting and bottling equipment.

The equipment included a 30-frame radial extractor, a strainer of new design, a honey pump, and storage tank. There was also a refrigerator and a heating chamber for bottling honey and rendering beeswax.

The apiary as observed was composed of two bee yards, one behind a natural wind break and the other in the open. Winter problems are being studied in these apiaries. A few returned to the park for supper.

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I think it was a splendid idea to hold the meeting this year at the College. It is centrally located, and with the new experiments in apiculture, it gave an opportunity to visit these departments. Everyone enjoyed the meeting and the acquaintance with fellow beekeepers and their families. We hope the war will be over by next year so that we can have a normal meeting again.

The following are the notes of the speeches as presented during the meeting.

PRESENT TRENDS IN AGRICULTURE

Glenn W. Hedlund

Professor of Agricultural Economics
The Pennsylvania State College

There is considerable confusion in the agricultural picture. but trends

emerge. In 1931-41, a depressed condition in agriculture existed; this was especially in the first half of that decade. A program was built up to reduce agricultural production because the surplus was not consumed. The period, 1937-41, was an extremely good production period, but the products were not consumed and had to be stored. This was true of corn, wheat, cotton.

Then the gears were shifted to all-out production during the war, though not completely in effect until the spring of 1943 when acreage controls were completely released.

The acreage of crops in the United States was 2 per cent higher in 1943 than in 1942 but even so it is still 5 to 10 per cent less than in the early thirties.

This winter there is or will be one-third more livestock in the United

States than on the average of ten years before 1941, but there has been but little increase in the acreage of grains. The storage of the thirties has been consumed by the livestock and now there is not enough grain to feed this large livestock herd. There is not enough for the extra stock, so we will have to reduce the stock. We will not have enough feed to get them through the winter. If acreage of grain were increased, we could support more livestock.

The total amount of food produced in the United States this year was greater than last year, is a statement frequently heard. While it is true, it is misleading, because although acres given over to food production have increased in number, the crops will be less on account of the season's less favorable growing conditions. The crop output is 5 per cent less than last year but the livestock will make up for the deficit of crops. So the total output of food will be as high or higher than last year, but not because we produced it this year—we merely fattened livestock on last year's grain.

There can be no surplus of food in

wartime. Apparent surpluses in the early 30's were surpluses not in terms of production, but in terms of consumption. They were surpluses only in terms of the ability to buy, not of the ability to consume.

The rise in average prices paid to farmers in Pennsylvania for the last three years follows:

July 1940-July 1941	18 per cent
July 1941-July 1942	16 per cent
July 1942-July 1943	24 per cent

On the whole there has been an average increase in prices to Pennsylvania farmers, and to farmers throughout the nation generally, of about 77 per cent.

The prices to farmers in Pennsylvania and in the rest of the United States will continue to rise so long as the war lasts, even though we have price controls.

Now let's look at the income to farmers as compared with the income to other occupational groups.

Since 1940 the gross income has arisen three-fourths, or about 75 per cent, and farmers had 116 per cent more net income in 1942 than in 1939. At the same time the national income

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rose two-thirds. Therefore, the farmers' income rose more than the net income to other groups. But even so, it is still small, and I don't know what you can do about it, unless you want to leave the farm. For the net income to agriculture was only 9½ per cent of the total net income in the United States. Farmers represent 22 per cent of the population, so 22 per cent of the people only get 9½ per cent of the income. The per capita net income of the farmer in 1942 was \$389 as against the per capita net income to other civilians of \$1,023.

I have spoken to you about the agricultural outlook briefly, and briefly, too, about price. Now I should like to speak about inflation. We might as well recognize that we have inflation now, and that adequate steps to control inflation have not been taken. The inflation we have at present however is not drastic, and I do not think it is either possible

or desirable for a nation to fight a war without some inflation.

Inflation exists when prices rise. That situation exists now. Many people are making more money now than they have ever made before, but there is less to spend it on. One reason for high wages is because people must be induced to move into other jobs, principally war jobs, through offering them more money. That is one reason a war cannot be fought without inflation.

Putting a ceiling on prices is like putting a cap on the steam gauge. It may stop the steam for a while from escaping, but it doesn't stop the cause. We must take out the fire under the steam boiler. The way to stop inflation is to remove the cause by bringing spending power into line with the restricted supply of goods. This can be done by higher taxation, and by enforced or voluntary savings,—War Bonds. But if we put our money into

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bonds now and spend bonds after the war to tide us over a depression, we will be postponing inflation. The only real way to stop it is to take the money away from us so we will never see it again. By controlling inflation we make the periods of deflation less painful.

Subsidies produce inflation because they put that much more money into circulation for the consumer. For example the government is now subsidizing milk in the Philadelphia area. They pay the farmer or producer a higher price than the consumer pays for it. That means that if you save a cent a quart on milk, you have that money to spend for other things, and excessive spending is one of the causes of inflation.

In this talk I have tried to cover production and prices. I believe that we cannot produce too much in the United States either in war or during the post-war period. With a prosperous population, we can consume all we produce. I hope we can cure the ills by removing the cause of underconsumption, not by restricting crops.

Inflation is here, and there is more coming. If history repeats itself, we will have deflation, which will be more painful than the inflation we are now going through.

INDIVIDUAL COLONY CARE

George H. Rea

Reynoldsville

There has been a 50 to 75 per cent winter loss in many states this year. As beekeepers, we are slow to awaken to the possibilities of bees in the war program. Honey and beeswax are both needed in ever increasing quantities. It is still not too late to cash in if we increase our hives and honey production.

Many commercial beekeepers would be as well off with one-half or two-thirds as many bees. They would have fewer problems and as much honey if they gave the bees proper care. The east is primarily a country of small beekeepers, and beginners must be encouraged because they are needed. We need many professional people with a few colonies of bees.

But whether you have one colony or 10,000—the problems are the same. Detailed care is necessary for each colony of bees. So, although many of you may know these things, I want to give a few hints on beekeeping to help beginners.

1. **Requeening:** As much as 25 per cent winter loss may result from failing to put new queens in the colonies. You should examine your colonies now and then. When the queen starts to



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fail in egg laying, she must be replaced.

2. **Stores:** Beekeepers generally are leaving more stores with their bees for winter and spring brooding than they used to leave. This prevents starvation in the winter and encourages the build-up of the colony in spring. There is intelligence in a bee-hive. If the stores are too low, the bees will cut down the amount of nourishing food they feed to the queen and she will reduce egg-laying. About 50 pounds of surplus honey more than is needed for winter consumption must be left in the hive. The bees need a bank account of honey on which to draw. This surplus of 40 or 50 pounds may not be used at all by the end of May. It is needed in order to keep brood-rearing to the highest possible level. We must adapt our methods to the habits and requirements of the bees if we want good, strong colonies, and good honey production.

3. **Wintering:** Pack bees heavily. Six to eight inches of packing is desirable. The honey bee uses up energy to keep warm and dies if it has to use its energy this way. Heavy packing saves stores, because the bee will keep warm from the packing and will not need to use so much food for energy. Insufficient packing is worse than none.

4. **Spring care:** Packing should be left on late—until any danger from a

last killing frost is over. But don't fail to make examinations to catch weak queens, or foul brood. If you have a double hive, reversing the stores from the top to the bottom stimulates brood-rearing. In about two weeks reverse again. Reverse the third time for extracted honey when supers are put on at the beginning of the honey flow. Use two-story hives for comb honey and reduce to one when comb supers are added.

A high per cent of swarming is caused by (1) failing queens, (2) a congested brood nest. You must keep up colony morale. Swarming and congestion reduce morale. Examine colony once a week for comb honey. The second hive body of the hive which has been removed should be returned for winter.

5. **Re-queening:** Introduce the queen to a nucleus of bees rather than to the entire hive and in this way get them to accept her first. The nucleus can be united with the rest of the colony with little loss of queens. If you introduce the new queen directly (not via a nucleus) to the whole hive, be sure to remove and kill the old queen immediately, and introduce the new queen through wire screening placed around a bee mailing box.

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REPORT OF APIARY INSPECTION

H. B. Kirk

Senior Entomologist, Harrisburg

We have found plenty of disease in Crawford and Erie counties in the last ten years.

With the introduction of the 3-year program in 1940, there has been regular inspection of all bees, with a follow-up of diseased apiaries. Where burning was necessary, it was done. It is now possible for the deputy inspectors to clean up an apiary without reporting back to Harrisburg. Illegal hives must be disposed of in some manner the day the inspection or check up is made.

The per cent of disease for the State varied little from 1 or 2 per cent in 20 years, but illegal hives have dropped 16 per cent. In order to reduce materially the per cent of disease it would seem necessary to initiate a 2-year program.

MY FIRST GLIMPSE OF PENNSYLVANIA BEE-KEEPING

John M. Amos

Extension Apiculturalist, Pennsylvania
State College

A stronger and more profitable beekeeping industry will result from the production of more extracted honey and less comb honey. When honey is extracted, the frames of the comb can be put back in the hives and the bees can start storing honey immediately

without the work of making new combs first. Any broken combs can be salvaged for sale as wax for which there is now a great demand at the highest prices. Consumers who buy comb honey eat the comb and the bees lose the comb or industry does not get the wax.

I would recommend a more universal use of the double brood chamber. The double chamber has at least a two-fold value. It (1) reduces swarming and (2) permits the bees to build much stronger colonies and produce more honey per unit than with the single brood chamber.

Beekeepers also need to reduce winter losses of bees. Such losses are estimated at 18 to 20 per cent annually. The use of the double brood chamber will provide storage space for adequate food for winter consumption by the bees. This will reduce losses caused by starvation. Another curb on winter losses will be found in better wind protection, both natural and artificial, for the colonies.

Reduction in losses from disease is another imperative need of the Pennsylvania beekeeping industry. At present, the annual losses are about 8 to 9 per cent. I would suggest the cooperation of beekeepers with the agricultural extension service, and the apiary inspection service to cut down the loss from bee disease.

To Our Customers:

The season was slow in opening up but we now have Hollopeter queens coming right along. Untested, single queen, 80c; 2 or more 75c each. Tested queen, \$1.50; breeders, \$6.00.

In order not to disappoint our regular customers and to help all we can to produce more honey and wax, we shall rear all the queens we can and in that way be using what ever skill we have acquired in 33 years queenbreeding, in the most effective way to help win the war.

WHITE PINE BEE FARMS, Rockton, Pa.

L. B. 180

FINDINGS OF THE RESEARCH DEPARTMENT

Edwin J. Anderson
Assistant Professor of Apiculture
Pennsylvania State College

Part of the time of our research program has been spent in getting material together and collecting or building scientific equipment. In all of this research work, in this up-hill task of getting started, I have enjoyed the fine cooperation of Dr. Fred F. Lininger, director of the agricultural experimental station, and from Dr. Edward H. Dusham, head of the zoology and entomology department. I have also had excellent cooperation in the development of the work itself. In the agronomy department, I. V. Thornton, professor of agronomy and Howard W. Higbee, assistant professor of soil technology, have worked in close co-operation on the project of bees' effect on red clover pollination and seed setting; and in the bacteriology department, Dr. Michael A. Farrell, professor of bacteriology and head of the department, has contributed bacteriological work on American and European foul brood. Merrill Wood has been a valuable part time assistant for the work in general.

The projects we have under way are,

then: (1) Work on the pollination of clover; (2) foulbrood work; (3) wintering, and (4) package bees.

You heard Mr. Rea tell you to pack bees heavily for wintering. I feel, however, that there is a limit to where it pays to pack the bees—going from north to south. That is, the farther south you get, the more mild or warm winter days you will have, and the more packing should be adapted to the climate. In our research work on wintering, we have one apiary protected naturally from the wind and the second apiary exposed to the weather from all sides. The heat loss was studied with different methods of wintering. Where the bees were packed heavily, a constant temperature was maintained in the hive. Where they were not packed, the temperature went up on warm or cold days. It would seem not so necessary to pack where there are occasional warm days during the winter.

Our study of package bees showed that 2 and 3-pound packages produced almost the same. Those fed 5 pounds of sugar syrup produced nothing. Those fed 15 to 18 pounds of sugar in syrup produced 25 pounds of honey from the first or clover honey flow.

I will ask Mr. Higbee to tell you of his work on clover seed production,

and the effect of bees on the production.

Mr. Higbee spoke informally. He said that we need to increase the production of clover, and so need to determine what will cause good production. To see if bees played any part in red clover pollination and seed setting, experiments were conducted where the bees had access to the clover and where they were prevented from reaching the clover.

The seed stock in this country is getting lower and lower and seed prices are getting higher and higher. White clover, alsike clover and sweet clover are easily pollinated by the bee. But red clover presents a problem. What will bees do on red clover under Penna. conditions?

Cages were constructed and put over the clover. The bees had to stay in the cages. Other cages covered the clover without bees.

Results:—not a single seed was set in 32 heads of clover under the cage where bees were excluded. In the bee cage, there was a heavy set of seed while in the open field the set was about 1/2 that in the cage with bees. In the open field, Scotch strain of clover was used.

The studies to date show that honey bees work on certain strains of red clover. Some strains set a lot of seed if honey bees are around; other strains

may not attract the bee. Now we must find out what strains do attract the bee and what effect soil or soil fertility may have on nectar secretion.

The following communication was offered by Dean Fletcher, who could not be present at the meeting. It was read by the Vice-president.

Mr. E. B. Everitt, President
Penna. State Beekeepers Association
2445 Allen Street
Allentown, Pennsylvania
Dear Mr. Everitt:

I regret that absence from State College prevents me from welcoming the State Beekeepers Association to our campus. My colleague, Doctor F. F. Lininger, will express to you the interest of the College in the industry which you represent and our desire to be of service through any or all of our three functions—resident teaching, research, and extension. Our recently organized program of beekeeping research, under the direction of Professor E. J. Anderson, marks the second step in the service of the College to beekeeping the first step being extension work which has been in progress for many years. The third and final step is to organize courses of instruction in beekeeping for students at the College. This has been requested by a number of students from time to time during the past ten years. It is our plan to ask Professor Anderson to

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offer at least a beginner's course in beekeeping when the boys and girls come back to College from the war and from war industries.

We desire to have the benefit of the continuing counsel and cooperation of the Association in developing our program. I hope, therefore, that the Association will find it convenient to meet at the College frequently, if not annually. I also suggest that it might

be to advantage if you do what a number of other state agricultural organizations have done—appoint a Committee on State College, the committee to represent the beekeepers in guiding and stimulating the expanding service of the College to the industry.

My best wishes for a profitable meeting.

Very truly yours,
S. W. Fletcher, Dean

NOTES FROM THE COUNTIES

CENTER COUNTY NOTES

by E. J. Anderson

The surplus crop in the county has been very spotted due to variations in rainfall. The clover flow started very early—about the 10th of June. It was over, however, by the first of July which is the normal time for the flow to start. The surplus varied from below normal for some apiaries to a fair surplus in others. The early honey was of fine color, flavor, and body. In some sections, a surplus of honey dew was harvested in late summer. The dry weather has reduced the fall prospects from white aster. Heavy frosts came very early. A series of frosts extended

through the later half of September, when normally killing frosts do not come until early October.

Brood rearing and pollen gathering stopped early in September, which is earlier than usual. Bees are filling the brood chambers in such a way that it would indicate a fairly hard winter lies ahead. The bees have deserted the supers and gone into brood chambers to store the late crop. It has been several years since they have done this in as definite a manner.

The market is very active with most beekeepers selling out rapidly. It looks like little honey will be left by the first of the new year.

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CUMBERLAND COUNTY NOTES

by P. M. Beam

I have watched colonies with pollen traps and observed they have always had some reserve of pollen, although right now it is at the lowest.

Pollen is not coming in much just now. It took a week to get just a little bit, however, during the last three days I picked up a little more.

Food chambers are in good condition and honey crop is about average.

TIOGA COUNTY NOTES

by Walter Doud

Mansfield, Pa.

Dear Mr. Anderson,

In reply to your letter of Sept. 13, Honey is selling as fast as we have time to get it ready for market—5 lb. pails are retailing at \$1.05—to grocers 90c each; Comb honey to grocers \$6.00 per case of 24, retailing at 30c each.

Fall flow here was rather small. Cool weather stopped the buckwheat honey flow when it should have been its best. Golden rod did not yield well.

Colonies are not as strong as we like to see them at this time of year. A large percent of the bees appear to be young and queens are still lay-

ing some. Colonies have plenty of stores for winter and until at least fruit bloom next spring.

BRADFORD COUNTY NOTES

by Harry W. Beaver

The summer is gone and the voice of the bee is no more heard in the land. Just now we are more than busy getting the buckwheat honey off the hives and extracted. We are hoping for just enough nice weather to get it home then we can get the extracting done at more leisure.

Today, October 3rd, I took a walk thru the orchard and discovered that our Baldwin apples were dropping and needed picking immediately, so will have several men and two women at that job in the morning to get them in the storage as rapidly as possible. The only fly in the ointment is the help question.

Geo. Rea has said that when a person has kept bees a year or two, he usually knows about all there is to learn about the business, but if he is still in the business for forty years, he does not know anything about bees, which, I begin to think, is about gospel truth.

We have several apiaries that have not had a crop of goldenrod honey

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this year while others within two miles had a good crop. There has been no apparent difference in the amount of goldenrod within reach.

Does the lay of the land have something to do with secretion of certain honey plants? Do certain air currents cause plants to secrete nectar or is the difference caused by showers passing over certain territory the cause of nectar secretion? We have a large apiary in a bowl a mile and a half across, which consistently yields good crops year after year. Some other yards, that seem to have more forage plants, do not regularly have good crops but occasionally will give down an astonishing crop. I must confess that I do not know the answer. Since help has been scarce I have been cutting out the poor yards—about fifty colonies per year—and must confess that it has had less effect on the amount of honey produced than one would suppose.

Perhaps we sometimes try to bore with too big an auger and occupy poor territory, that does not pay dividends.

ERIE COUNTY NOTES

E. E. Root
October 4th

The fall honey flow is very good at present and has been since the goldenrod flow started. If the weather re-

mains favorable there will be the best honey flow that we have had for three years. We are enjoying the heaviest goldenrod bloom that I have seen for several years. We did not do so well with clover. In limited areas there was a very good clover flow, but in the locality I am in, it was not so good. The North East section had a very good clover flow. Goldenrod is favorable in the entire county as is aster also.

The prices are about the same as prevail in other sections. The demand is very good, we cannot supply the market here at the present time. There has been a shortage of honey in this section of the state, more so in regard comb honey than extracted. There has been a fair amount of extracted honey on hand all the time.

The American Foul brood is the worst I have ever seen it, about thirty or forty per cent of the bees in the County are infected. We have had an inspector in the County for a few weeks and in three weeks he was in and around Erie proper he burned about three hundred colonies. On one afternoon that I was out with him, we burned fifty one colonies and they were all in one yard except one and that was only a short distance from the fifty. The fifty was every colony that the man owned. I have had eight colonies to destroy, and I expect more the way that the

County is contaminated. I hope to see the County cleaned up as soon as possible, and I believe that Mr. Kirk will give us another inspector next year, so as to get the County clean if possible.

We, (Root, Amos and Bull) were out checking bees south of North East and were driving along a side road when we saw an old grouse out in the road with her young. Lee Bull stopped the car and slid out from under the wheel and took a picture of them in the road not more than twenty-five feet from the car.

A REVIEW OF THE 1943 BEEKEEPING SEASON

John M. Amos

Bees went into winter quarters last fall in a poor condition generally because of the poor honey flow in 1942 and to a considerable degree because beekeepers failed to provide sufficient food for the bees in a season when it was most needed. The need for food was emphasized in the spring during the build-up period when the weather conditions were not normal. Most beekeepers like to hide behind the cloak of a "bad winter for bees" to cover up their negligence of not leaving enough honey for the bees when they find numerous dead colonies in the spring. Honeybees cannot live without

consuming food to provide the energy which will enable them to keep warm and remain alive during cold weather. According to weather observations, the winter of 1942-43 was no worse than it has been in previous years. The chief reason that beekeepers had a lot of dead colonies in the spring is that they filled their own sweet tooth or sold the honey before giving consideration to the welfare of the colonies of bees. This is the greatest mistake that a person can do in keeping bees.

There is little doubt but that this spring was very unusual and contributed to the losses of colonies by beekeepers who had always provided food for their bees for an average season but did not make any food provision for the unusual season as 1943 proved to be. Resorting to the feeding of sugar syrup to keep the colony from starving in many cases did not succeed. Colonies being fed sugar syrup in the spring should have an ample reserve of pollen in the combs for rearing brood or be provided with a pollen supplement made up of pollen and soybean flour.

The pollen or pollen supplement will give the bees the necessary protein and minerals needed for normal brood rearing in the early spring which replaces the old bees that have come through the winter. Many colonies died because they had used up their pollen supplies and were in a weakened condition when the very cold snap hit the first week in April and the temperature dropped

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to eight degrees above zero in some places. Following this, nearly every time that plants developed sufficiently to produce pollen for the bees, a freeze occurred soon afterward that killed the flowers and kept the bees in the hives. Many bright days occurred but were too cool for satisfactory bee flight. Cool, rainy weather was not uncommon and it was early June before the weather became sufficiently settled for normal bee activity.

In spite of all the above chatter about the difficulties encountered by beekeepers the past spring in getting colonies built up for the honey flow, this fact remains outstanding in the observations which I have made, that where healthy colonies entered the fall period with a **full depth super of honey** and were provided with a windbreak (some were packed and some were not) they were overflowing with bees in May. They were very strong, even though they had not been given any attention from late September until early in May. Much praise was heard about the honey crop these colonies gathered whereas, the reports from sugar fed bees was disappointing in many instances.

Considerable variations in weather occurred in different parts of the state. The Southeast, the Lehigh Valley sections and certain other parts of the state were quite dry after a wet spring. In other sections wet weather continued throughout the summer. The honeyflow seemed to be very good the last ten days in June. A cold spell the first three days in July cut the nectar flow to such an extent that little surplus came into the hives following that period. For the crop of clover honey in many areas, the season was actually "short and sweet". Some localities, however, fared well, and colonies produced crops of over a hundred pounds per colony from clover.

During most of July and early August there was a dearth of nectar in most areas of the state and colonies had difficulty in maintaining themselves without consuming some of the surplus stored, as was the case in a few localities. With the beginning of the buckwheat flow colonies became rejuvenated and secured a good crop of honey from that source. Buckwheat was seeded over a much larger area this year and this was reflected in a better buckwheat honey crop. A scarcity of seed probably hindered a greater

acreage from being planted.

While late buckwheat was being worked by the bees, goldenrod came into bloom and activities were gradually shifted to this plant. A good surplus of goldenrod honey was in the making when the heavy frosts that occurred between September 12 and 19 destroyed much of that forage. Immediately following these frosts, the various asters have been in bloom but the working days of the bees have been short be-

cause the days have been slow in warming up and cool off quickly towards evening.

In general the honeyflow over the state has probably been better than last year but not up to average. Beekeepers have been encouraged to leave a super of honey with the bees to avoid last year's mistakes. The brood chambers of comb honey colonies seem to be well stocked with honey.

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A NEW USE FOR A SMOKER
John M. Amos

Recently I had the misfortune of going out in the morning and trying to start my car in the rain. All that it would do was fire a few times and quit. I tried running it down a hill but it would not go. A passerby came along and suggested wiping off the spark plugs with a cloth or rag dampened with gasoline then waiting a few minutes until the gas evaporated. Neither he nor I could get any gas out of our cars to do that with so he left me with my troubles. It was raining

quite hard so I got back into the car and sat there listening to the rain patter on the car top. It dawned upon me then that heat would dry off my plugs and I had just the thing to make it - - - my bee smoker. I filled the smoker full of dry wood and made it burn so it would blow flame then puffed it on the plugs. Care was taken to blow away from the carburetor and prevent a fire. A few puffs on each plug did the trick. I stepped on the starter and it started immediately. Was I ever glad I had a bee smoker in the car? I should say so.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION BLANK

Enclosed find \$1.00 for one year's membership in the Pennsylvania Beekeepers Association. Including a years subscription to the Pennsylvania Beekeeper.

Signed

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**THE PENNSYLVANIA
BEEKEEPER**



VOL. 18 NO. 4

DECEMBER, 1943

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Frederick Hahman, Altoona, Pa. Adv. Mgr., Harry W. Beaver, Troy, Pa.

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PRESIDENT E. B. Everitt, Allentown, Pa.
VICE-PRESIDENT Roy Herr, Lancaster, Pa.
SECRETARY-TREASURER H. M. Snavely, Carlisle, Pa.

The 41st Annual Meeting

of

PENNSYLVANIA STATE BEEKEEPERS' ASSOCIATION

Room 321, Education Building
Harrisburg, Pa.

January 19, 1944

(One Day Only)

Wednesday Morning—9:30-12:00

Meeting called to order by the President—Prof. E. B. Everitt, Allentown.

Invocation—Rev. Paul Beighley, Boston, Pa.

Production and Present Uses of Beeswax—John M. Amos, Extension Apiarist, State College.

Address of Welcome—Hon. Miles Horst, Secretary of Agriculture, Harrisburg.

Response—Roy H. Herr, Vice President, Lancaster.

Control of Bee Diseases in Pennsylvania—H. B. Kirk, Senior Entomologist, Harrisburg.

Question Box—Questions to be handed in and will be answered by selected persons.

Discussion and Announcements.

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Report of Secretary-Treasurer—H. M. Snavely, Carlisle.

Election of Officers.

President's Address—Prof. E. B. Everitt.

Business Session.

Some Work With Package Bees—Prof. E. J. Anderson, Asst. Professor in Apiculture, State College.

How to Prepare Package Bees for Shipment—E. S. Prevost, Extension Bee Specialist, Clemson, S. C.

War-time Activities of Our Research Station—Dr. Fred Lininger, Director.

Greetings from Visitors.

Appointments and Report of Committees.

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Beekeepers' Banquet

Y. M. C. A., Corner of Front and North Streets,

Roast Beef Dinner—\$1.00

E. S. Prevost—Toastmaster

Song.

Address—George H. Rea, Reynolds-ville.

Forum—Contest Gleanings in Bee Culture, conducted by assigned person.

Research Work at the College in Pictures—E. J. Anderson.

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It was thought best to hold only a

one-day meeting due to present conditions, so let's make this a big day, and come for the entire day—including the banquet.

A WORD FROM THE SECRETARY

In these days of changing conditions when so many beekeepers are busy with other things, it is becoming

hard to keep everything in the association going in first-rate order; yet we have managed to keep out of the red. Only one new county organization has come in this year. There have been quite a lot of new members join from old associations. If we could keep the old members, which we see no reason why we

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shouldn't, then we could make a nice showing by the end of each year. This, we fail to do since many fall by the wayside each year. We have often wondered why so many beekeepers join and then fail to come back the second year. We have tried to send out the Pennsylvania Beekeeper to all of you, even when the dues are not paid for as much as a year. With everything going ceiling high we will have to check more closely. Dues are very low as compared with the cost of printing and other things, so don't let the association down at a time like this. We'll all receive more benefit when things are normal again if we pull together now. We do, of course, have many loyal members and we wish to thank those who have kept up their loyalty.

If any member changes his address he should notify the secretary by sending in both the old and new address. We want to serve all the best we can.

It is important that we have the correct and complete address, that is; the street and number, or rural route number. In several cases during the year some of the magazines have come back because of not having the correct street number. If you wish to subscribe to any of the bee journals now, the special price offered to association members is 75 cents per year, the subscription should be sent in either through the county secretary or state secretary.

We are mailing out cards to all delinquent members who have not paid any dues since 1942. We hope each will stay by the association and contribute his share, sending in his dues through the county secretary or direct.

Here's wishing you the season's happiness, and a prosperous 1944. Don't forget the meeting in Harrisburg, January 19th. We'll be looking for you.

YOUR GOOD WILL

The most valuable thing we have is your GOOD WILL. It's been 85 years in the making, and without it we couldn't have been in business today. We are grateful to the many beekeepers and wax shippers who patronize us.

When the writer took over, some 50 years ago, we advertised: "When you ship us your honey or wax, remittance will be mailed the day shipment arrives." This statement is still on the top of our NEW YEAR'S resolutions. We assure every one that this wonderful resolution will continue as in past years.

We wish every one of you a MERRY XMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR. May we hear from you often.

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CINCINNATI, O.

NATIONAL FEDERATION OF STATE BEEKEEPERS' ASSOCIATIONS

A meeting of the proposed National Federation of State Beekeepers' Associations is scheduled to be held in Chicago, January 11, 12 and 13, 1944, in the Morrison Hotel. The purpose of this meeting will be to effect an organization, review the status of the government regulations pertaining to beekeeping, prices on honey, research

by government agencies, post-war beekeeping problems, etc. Chairman H. J. Rahmlow, Committee on Organization, has sent out notices of the meeting. At this time it is expected that the new federation will be completed which was proposed last winter at a meeting in Chicago. It is strongly urged that the producers have representatives at the meeting, hence our state association should send a delegate.

NOTES FROM THE COUNTIES

CUMBERLAND COUNTY NOTES

by H. M. Snavely

This was an unusual season for most of the beekeepers in our county. Weather conditions were not too favorable at the beginning of the season, because of cold wet weather, we then had a very dry summer. The fall flow was very late, and not too hea-

vy. It did come in rather strong at the last but was so late that not much could be expected. In some parts of the county the crop was much better than in other parts. Most of the local honey is about sold.

The bees are only in a fair condition for the winter, however, the weather has been mild until December

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Because beeswax is in great demand many beekeepers do not realize that this very demand diverts large supplies of his wax to markets that would not normally take much of it.

Since you are a beekeeper, remember that the need of the armed forces for beeswax comes first; then the need of the maker of bee comb foundation comes next. The foundation maker serves both needs. Send him your wax.

If you want Dadant's Famous Foundations, Crimp-wired, Plain, and Surplus, make sure we get your beeswax. We pay the highest ceiling price, and can get all the wax there is in either your comb or your slumgum. Write for particulars.

DADANT & SONS, Hamilton, Illinois

11th, and unless the winter changes and becomes very severe the bees should make it all right. If we have a hard winter from now on there will probably be heavy losses.

YORK COUNTY NOTES

by Quay Minnich

Once again the Beekeepers of York County can feel justified in stating that this year's crop was above the average and of good quality. Those who had their bees in surplus gathering condition at the right time were rewarded with an unusual heavy flow of high grade light honey. From reports this flow was good throughout practically all of the County. Had it not been for a rather severe drought in late summer an all time high would have been recorded.

There was considerable swarming. Some beekeepers reported quite a bit of difficulty in holding their colonies intact. However, a lot of this trouble could have been eliminated had the

necessary steps been taken in time. Boys, learn your lesson well, so as to eliminate a repetition.

Most of our fall flow was from aster with its strong aroma. There may be trouble in store for our beekeepers because of the heavy aster flow. Colonies examined this warm November day were found to have crystallized and fermented honey. This is not good, yet to those who did not strip their colonies too close before the aster flow, little or no trouble from dysentery should follow. Some feeding has been done, mostly to counteract possible ill effects of the heavy aster flow.

Extracted honey is moving good and at ceiling prices. With few exceptions most producers will be sold out before Christmas. Comb honey, as usual is scarce and bringing a good price. Watch your step, fellows, on these sealed prices. There is more to this ceiling business than most folks realize.

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Judging from the attendance and interest shown at the County Association's meeting held at our place last June, we have reasons to believe the June, 1944, meeting will be looked forward to with interest and beneficial results. Arrangements are already under way to have one or two of our state advisors on hand together with some outstanding beekeepers from surrounding counties. (Andy, you and Amos get ready for this. The first or second week in June.)

Believe it or not, while writing this a letter comes to me soliciting orders for honey in a big way. 60,000 pounds to the car at 12c plus 1 1-2c per pound duty. All water white honey in new sixties. If anyone is interested, I shall be glad to furnish the name of the bidder.

Until I see you at the Harrisburg meeting, so long.

ERIE COUNTY NOTES

by Ernest Bendure

I have snow fence put up on the northwest side of all my bees and also around the pig yard. I thought that since it prevents bees from eating so much and brings them through the winter better that it may also do the same for the pigs.

Many dairy farmers are selling out and going to war factories since the

price of feed is too high for them to make out. This situation may affect our future clover honey crops since most of the clover and buckwheat honey comes from the dairying districts.

The bees at home (in the fruit belt) made most of this year's fall honey from goldenrod and aster. I left about 1 1-2 tons of buckwheat and goldenrod honey on in full depth and half depth bodies and supers, mostly on the stronger colonies of bees, as the strong ones were the ones that needed feeding last spring. I fed pollen, soybean flour, honey cakes last spring. I believe it will be easier to let the bees have more room to store their own pollen, as well as honey, than to rob them with traps and then give it back again. It was very difficult for me to obtain enough pollen since much of it molded in the traps.

This year, as a whole, has been average with me with an average clover crop, a little less than average on buckwheat and a little more than average of fall flowers. I have not enough honey for more than 1-3 of the demand. Where I formerly took in from 15 to 30 pounds on my route, the last trip I took in many times this amount and then did not have enough honey to supply what was asked for.

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LANCASTER COUNTY NOTES

by W. O. Hershey

Review of the Season

Bees were not in too good shape in early March—some dead, because of lack of stores. I was working away from home until November 11 last Fall. This made it a little late to feed syrup. March 1st was too early to examine colonies. There was nothing to do but put feeders on. This was done by putting 5-pound pails over escape holes inside a shallow super. Fruit bloom held off rather long and the bees did not seem to pick up very much from this flow. Dandelion was not much better. By the time poplar came into bloom, bees were in good shape and gathered quite a bit from this source. To this dark honey was added a little locust. Clover did not come with a rush—just a light gradual flow. On June 20th, it seemed as if every colony should have another super. This was put on and, in a number of cases, would not have been needed.

I left all the honey with the bees until August 1st. It served as a supply reservoir for the summer. We had several bad years when we took

off too much so that the bees weakened during the summer and were not in condition to take advantage of the fall flow. Some even starved during August and September of those years. By August, there was about 100 pounds on the best colonies. Of course, where colonies swarmed, there was not much honey.

Bees are in very good shape now with ample stores in most hives and enough young bees to winter.

The local market for honey is very good. I am still selling below ceiling price to the retail trade. A few 60-pound can buyers are willing to pay any price. There seems to be no local honey for sale. New clover fields look very good. Like honey, bees seem to have advanced in price. Beekeeping was at a low ebb in Lancaster County. I hope the present conditions will bring it back.

A WORD FROM THE PROVINCE OF SASKATCHEWAN

by R. M. Pugh, Provincial Apiarist

I wish to acknowledge your letter of November 10 and your request for some news about Saskatchewan conditions. I am glad to pass this in-

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formation on to you and trust that it will be of some interest to the readers of the "Pennsylvania Beekeeper." As your readers are probably aware, this is a new country and farming here used to be almost exclusively confined to grain farming, and wheat constituted our major crop. During the past fifteen or more years, however, a gradual expansion of various other farming enterprises has taken place. Among these, beekeeping has been started and during that period we have climbed from bottom place among the honey producing provinces of Canada to second place. At the present time we have over 7,000 beekeepers, keeping about 54,000 colonies of bees and, this year, producing 5,300,000 pounds of honey. Beekeeping is still rapidly expanding here and the wartime demand for honey has further accelerated the rate of this expansion and we would not be surprised to see our production doubled within two or three years' time. We are fortunate that further expansion can take place, as we have large areas suitable for extension beekeeping operations which are not at present being utilized.

I was interested to note that the last statistics for Pennsylvania show 184,000 colonies of bees with an average yield of 32 pounds, producing a total of 5,800,000 pounds. Our Saskatchewan average was lower than usual but at 98.9 pounds per colony,

enabled us to produce a total of 5,300,000 pounds—almost as much as your state.

Practically all our surplus honey is secured from sweet clover, although alfalfa and fireweed are also valuable in some districts, but we estimate that about 95% of our honey comes from the sweet clover plant. The honey season here is very short and when the flow is on the plants yield very freely and, since practically all the surplus honey is secured from one plant, the honey produced throughout the province is uniform as to color and flavor. Our average honey, therefore, is white or water-white with a mild flavor and low moisture content.

In the spring the flow opens with willows and crocus and is contributed to by a variety of flowers as the season progresses. The main honey flow usually commences about the 7th of July and, for the past few years, the main flow has lasted until approximately the first of August. Some few years back it was not unusual for our main flow to last through until mid-August or the end of August but we have not been favored with such a year for some time, and it is, therefore, necessary to have our colonies at the peak of their strength, ready to work on the flow, by July 7.

Some few years back beekeepers used to dream about having market conditions such as we have today for

we have no marketing problem at all and the difficulty is to spread the honey out equitably over one's customers. We have no native fruit in this part of the country and, with the rationing of all canned goods and the difficulty of securing jam or other sweets, honey has assumed added importance in the eyes of the public today. For the past two years, selling prices have been rigidly controlled and they were not allowed to advance in Canada before the control was enforced as was the case in the United States where a very substantial advance in honey prices was allowed before any control was enforced. In addition to price control, early last fall the rationing authorities enforced the rationing of honey and coupons had to be presented for the purchase of all honey throughout Canada. One coupon, of which two become valid every two weeks, can be turned in for one pound of honey. Beekeepers are allowed to consume all the honey they want for their own use. The rationing order has tended to more widely distribute the limited quantity of honey available for the market but it has been quite a hardship on many people who were heavy users of this commodity and it has tended to encourage, to some extent, the black marketing of honey. On the whole, our rationing order has not worked very satisfactorily and you

will be most fortunate if a similar order is not instituted in the United States.

WINTER WORK FOR BEEKEEPERS

by John M. Amos

For many beekeepers the winter months provide time for putting equipment in shape for the next year. Those who utilize this time for doing the following suggestions will have less to do during the rush period next spring and enjoy more pleasure from keeping bees.

1. Although it is rather late for packing bees or wrapping them with black slaters felt paper, it can still be done to good advantage for the bees. Care should be taken to disturb the bees as little as possible.

2. Where bees are being wintered in colonies that do not have a top or upper entrance, ice should not be permitted to form over the exit for the bees. Snow will do no harm. If there is a five-eighths inch auger hole in the food chamber or hive body, there should be no cause for worry from ice and snow over the front of the hive.

3. During the winter is a good time to melt up old brood combs and cappings for the wax that they contain. If there is a considerable quantity (a hundred pounds or more) it probably would be best to ship it to

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some wax firm for rendering. Small quantities, the combs and cappings, can be placed in a bag and put in a container filled with enough water to cover the bag after the combs are melted. A weight is put on the bag and as the wax comes out of the bag it rises to the surface of the water. Boil for nearly an hour and then let cool the wax will then be found on top of the water. **Do not put beeswax in a container to melt and start another job. It is likely to boil over and start a fire. Watch the melting pot closely.**

4. To some beekeepers next summer may seem a long way off but one should remember that transportation difficulties are increasing and probably will not improve very soon. Order your bees and supplies now. Many package bee dealers are booked full for 1944 deliveries already. The necessary supplies of jars, 60-pound cans, hives and repair parts can be

secured and stored or made ready for use.

5. Considerable pleasure can be derived from nailing up frames and wiring them and placing the foundation ready for imbedding. Comb section supers may be filled and stored until needed. Make sure all supers are well covered on top and bottom to keep out dust and dirt.

6. Painting hives and supers adds life to equipment. Hives and supers that are exposed to the weather most of the year should be given a coat of good paint every four to six years. This chore can best be done in the spring when drying conditions are better, unless one is fortunate enough to have a heated workshop.

7. Extracting combs should be checked for the presence of wax-worms and fumigated if needed. Carbon disulphide or paradichlorobenzene (P.D.B.) crystals can be used for this purpose.

8. After using the workshop all season and not giving it too much attention, there is plenty of time in the winter for a house cleaning and shop clean-up. Do it now.

9. If you are interested in how much profit you are getting from your bees, during the winter is a good time to take an invoice of stocks. Keep a record of all present stock, purchases, expenditures and receipts. After another invoice next fall you can figure just how much you made from your bees and how much it cost to produce the honey crop.

10. Store your honey in a warm place where the temperature will remain rather constant. Variations in temperature hastens the granulation of honeys. Honey will keep best if stored at 80 degrees F.

11. Do not forget to attend your county or local beekeepers meetings. Send for a few bulletins or get a book on beekeeping to study. They are interesting and informative and

might help you solve some of your present difficulties.

12. Keep your best friends sweet with a gift package of honey. This year, with sugar rationing, it will be especially appreciated.

MAINTAINING THE COLONY MORALE

By Edwin J. Anderson

One might ask first what is colony morale? It is indeed something that does not lend itself to a simple explanation but might be compared to the morale of a great nation. It takes on different forms under the impact of different sets of conditions.

One form of colony morale might be compared to war and international robbery, as we see it today the world over; when fighting and destruction are general and no nation can feel secure. The morale in an apiary is similar when a hive can not be opened without hundreds of robbers jumping in to rob and kill the unsuspecting bees. At such times, the bee-

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keeper must discontinue working with his bees for safety's sake.

Morale may, on the other hand, be one of industry as with a young nation, for instance, America in its pioneer days when great effort was put forth to carve our present nation out of the wilds of America. The same spirit prevails in most normal hives of bees each spring when the bees must rebuild the colony for the activities of another year.

The lack of colony spirit is very evident when a strong colony suddenly refuses to work in the supers at a time when weak colonies are continuing to produce a surplus. Each beekeeper should try to learn to recognize the characteristics of a favorable colony morale. He should learn also those manipulations which tend to maintain colony morale at a high level so that those manipulations can be put into practice at the critical moment.

The conditions in the hive which

help maintain morale might be listed as follows:

1. Plenty of space for the queen and for storing honey.
2. A comfortable hive.
3. Vigorous stock.
4. Careful manipulation of the colony.
5. Good combs.
6. Proper supering.

When a single hive body is used for winter, crowding may occur in a few days of spring honeyflow. Gains of 4, 6 or even 8 pounds are often registered from maple or fruit bloom. Such a flow, plus an expanding brood chamber mean quick crowding and loss of colony morale. If two hive bodies are used for winter crowding, takes longer but occurs all too soon. An extra body of empty combs placed on top early in spring does little harm but may mean much in maintaining morale. This empty super may be added at the beginning fruit bloom.

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All hives should be in a dry sunny location but should have plenty of ventilation and shade on top during the hottest part of the summer. The direct rays of the sun may add 10 or more degrees to the temperature under the lid. Ventilation may be provided at the bottom or top of the brood chamber as the beekeeper desires. It should be remembered, however, that bees do not store or seal honey readily near an opening to the outside of the hive.

The value of vigorous stock cannot be emphasized too strongly. Some strains never seem to develop a good colony morale but loaf along and are satisfied with a surplus of 30 pounds or less. In other colonies, the morale may be strong but may break down easily, and be replaced by a desire to swarm. Careful selection of home grown stock or of the queen breeder from whom purchases are made are of first importance. Weak stocks often lead to excessive supercedure

which in turn may result in supercedure swarms. A large average surplus for an apiary can be obtained only when the best of stock is used.

Careless or excessive manipulation of a colony may break down the morale and cause a vigorous colony to loaf or start swarm cells. The writer has had many strong colonies suddenly stop working when weak ones continued to store a surplus. This sudden change of morale was attributed to excessive or careless handling of the colony. A common error is to take all the combs from a hive when looking for queen cells and leave them on the outside for a period of time. Such handling may result in complete disorganizing the colony. Always work the colony as quickly as possible and do no more with it than is necessary.

Good combs also induce good morale. The combs should not be over 10 or 12 years old and should be largely composed of properly sized

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worker cells. Stretched cells or drone cells are a hindrance to expansion of the brood nest of many colonies each spring. Defective combs in the middle of the brood chamber can cause considerable trouble and encourage excessive swarming.

Proper supering depends partly upon the strength of the colony. If a colony is strong enough to fill the new super with worker bees and continue working evenly in those partly filled, the new one will do no harm if placed below the ones partly filled. It is safer, however, to place empty supers above, then the colony may expand into them as the strength of the colony permits. If the unity of the colony or working fence is broken by dividing the super space, the colony morale may also be broken and considerable honey lost. If a super is placed above, the bees will not use it until it is needed but if it is placed in between, they might keep the working area continuous and become discouraged if they cannot do so.

In closing it might be said that the

colony morale is an intangible thing that the beekeeper must learn to recognize and maintain if he is to get anything like maximum results from his bees. Colony morale can not be seen but can be judged only by results obtained in the hive.

BRADFORD COUNTY NOTES

by Harry W. Beaver

Well here we are again, facing another Christmas, with another season behind us. We have a few more gray hairs than we had last year at this time. We finally got the apples all picked. By sorting at night with the help of a local painter, we got them ready for delivery. This was a year that buyers came to the grower. We sold while the demand was at its height. Possibly we could have kept the crop till spring and realized more, but since the O. P. A. put a ceiling on them and, as with the honey, there was no object in keeping them. This season we finished packing the bees

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Nov. 27th—last year Nov. 19th. I have yet to see any difference in wintering if packed in October or November. I have noticed one thing. In packing later, the bees are less disturbed when it is, say around 40 degrees, than any other temperature. At this temperature we can work without a veil and with very little smoke.

At one time there was a notion among the beekeepers that bees had to have a flight after packing, on account of having filled up with honey. With late packing they are very little disturbed.

Since joining the Finger Lakes Honey Producers Co-Op at Groton, N. Y., we have sold the bulk of our honey through them, retaining enough to take care of our pail trade to consumers direct.

We have had bids from several of the chain stores for from two to five

thousand five-pound pails, but at a price that did not tempt us in the least. However, there seems to be someone who will do all the work of putting his honey in five-pound pails and sell it about the same price per pound as he could get in sixties. Why work for the chain store companies for nothing?

I still have the annual clean-up of beeswax, which takes about a week. Since reducing the number of colonies, I find a surplus of extracting combs on hand, so am culling out some of the poorer combs and making them into lubrication to aid the war effort. I will retain enough combs to fill supers enough to supply three to the colony.

Some will need more and a few less. I find three average enough for a full crop as we have it. I kept two or three decoy hives at each yard. The total of swarms caught was thirty-

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nine—a nice sized apiary, all of which would have gone to the woods if the deccys had not been available. Some of the early swarms made as high as five supers of honey during the season. Good interest on an empty hive. All the swarms, however, were not from my own yards as some were black bees and savages at that.

It is with deep regret that we learned of the passing of Otis C. Fuller, of Muncy R. F. D., near Comley, Pa., at the age of 83 years. I knew him intimately for over forty years. My wife and I always enjoyed a visit to the sunny dell, where his home and apiary were situated in the southern edge of the Muncy Hills.

While not an extensive beekeeper, he was a deep student of the busy

little bee, and many a friendly argument we had as to this or that phase of beekeeping. In late years, he was unable to do very much manual labor, his wife doing most of the actual bee work at which she is an apt scholar. All too quickly, the years roll on and we young fellows soon become the old folks. We too will have to drop out some of these days. May we "so live that when the summons comes to join the innumerable caravan that moves into that mysterious realm, where each shall take his place in the silent halls of death. Go thou not as the galley slave, scourged to his dungeon, but with a serene and unfaltering faith, approach thy grave as one who wraps the draperies of his couch about him and lies down to pleasant dreams."

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